

Police Department

Public Safety Center
5925 Cove Road • Roanoke, Virginia 24019
Non-Emergency (540) 562-3265
Emergency Dial 9-1-1



News Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: Amy Whittaker
Title: Public Information Officer
Cell: (540) 589-3089
Awhittaker@roanokecountyva.gov

Police Investigation

UPDATE May 31, 2023 - At this stage of the police investigation, it appears that Lewis Lambert killed the male juvenile then committed suicide. Lewis Lambert was a person of interest in an arson investigation in Roanoke City. The Roanoke County Police Department is working alongside the Roanoke City Arson investigators to provide them with any and all evidence collected from the scene to assist in their investigation.

UPDATE 4:00 p.m. Roanoke County Police responded to a call for service at approximately 6:00 a.m. Friday to the McAfee Knob trailhead parking lot on Catawba Road. Arriving officers located two deceased males with gunshot wounds, one of them believed to be self-inflicted. Police are not looking for suspects and there is no danger to the public.

One of the deceased males is identified as Lewis James Lambert, Jr., 62, of Roanoke. The other male is a juvenile.

If anyone has additional information, please contact the Roanoke County Emergency Communications Center at (540) 562-3265.

May 26, 2023 – Roanoke County Police responded at approximately 6:00 a.m. Friday to the McAfee Knob trailhead parking lot on Catawba Road where two deceased males were located. This is an active investigation and no further information is available at this time. Police believe there is no danger to the public.

As police conduct their investigation, parking in the trailhead parking lot will be reduced. Hikers are encouraged to make use of the McAfee Knob Trailhead Shuttle which operates from the I-81 Exit 140 Park & Ride Lot. They can visit

www.mcafeeshuttle.com.