

News Media Release

For Immediate Release

Date: Apr 12, 2021
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Silver Alert for Kenneth Gatlin

On 04/08/2021 officers of the Pratt Police Department were dispatched to Parkwood Village, 401 Rochester, Pratt, KS on to take a report relating to a missing and endangered adult male subject. Upon their arrival, Pratt Police identified the missing man as Kenneth E. Gatlin (68). At the time of the report, it was determined that Mr. Gatlin walked away from the facility between 9:30 and 10:30 AM and officers were advised that he suffered from dementia.

Following the initial report Police Officers, staff members from Parkwood Village, and members of Gatlin's family began a search of the immediate vicinity; the search having negative results. A Silver Alert was issued state-wide with area law enforcement agencies asked to attempt to locate Gatlin.

In the hours and days following Gatlin's disappearance, Police and Sheriff's Officers participated in systematic searches through-out the City and areas adjacent; again these searches having negative results. Volunteer organizations followed up with additional searches throughout the City and areas adjacent; these searches also having negative results.

On 04/12/2021 at approximately 12:17 PM a landowner called #911 to report having found the body of an elderly man alongside a fence northwest of Pratt. Emergency personnel were dispatched to the area at which time it was determine the body to be that of Mr. Kenneth E. Gatlin. An investigation was conducted at the scene by Detectives of the Pratt Police Department, assisted by an agent of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and officers of the Pratt County Sheriff's Office and the cause of death is pending autopsy. At the time of this press release investigators do not belief the death to have been the result of foul play.

The Pratt Police Department would like to extend our condolences to the Gatlin family. Additionally, the Department would like to thank the volunteers who aided in the search for Mr. Gatlin and anyone else that assisted searching for a positive outcome in this investigation.

CASE NO: 2021-2138