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DIVERS IN GARY RECOVER BODY OF MISSING SWIMMER

Gary, Indiana- Gary officials announced this evening the recovery of female body from Lake Michigan at Gary's Marquette Beach. The body of the female was recovered by the Lake County Marine Unit and the Hobart Dive Team around 5:30 p.m. this evening.

Gary Beach Patrol says the recovery location was about a quarter of a mile west from of where the swimmer was reported to have entered the water and about 150 feet from the shore. Officials say the body matches the description of Tiara Hardy reported missing from the beach on Monday, July 23, 018 at 7:25 p.m. Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson and city officials immediately offered prayers and condolences to the family.

Reports indicate Tiara Hardy and two friends went into the water on Monday despite warning signs posted at the beach. The three friends reportedly entered water after lifeguards were off duty. The Gary Fire Department and Gary Beach Patrol were dispatched following a 911 call. Onlookers were able to rescue another female and male from the water.

Gary officials thanked the numerous partners assisting in the rescue efforts. In addition to the Lake County Marine Unit and Hobart Dive Team: the Portage Marine Unit, the Indiana Conservation Division, the Lake County Aviation Unit, the U. S. Coast Guard, the Hobart Police Department. City officials also thanked men and women of the Gary Fire Department, the Gary Beach Patrol, the Gary Police Department, the Gary Parks Department, Gary Lifeguards and those onlookers for their efforts.

Citizens and visitors to the beach are reminded that while Gary Beach Patrol monitors the beach until 10:00 p.m. during beach season, lifeguards are on duty at Gary beaches from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The city utilizes the national weather service and beach testing to determine when to swimmers should not enter the water. Signs will be posted at beach entrances, red flags will be erected and lifeguards will walk the beach to warn patrons of dangerous water.