

Two Salem teens killed in early morning accident July 1 identified

Written by George Browning
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The identity of two individuals killed in an early morning accident on State Road 160 five miles east of Salem last Tuesday, July 1 have finally been released.

Washington County Sheriff Claude Combs said a call came into dispatchers just before 4 a.m. that morning and the driver, Joel Clay Reeves, 17 of Salem and Sameul Levi Holstine, 17, also of Salem, were pronounced dead at the scene.

When officers arrived on the scene they found a vehicle on fire, according to Combs.

Combs said it appears the vehicle went off the left side of the road and struck a tree and caught fire.

The identities of the two individuals could not be confirmed until late in the evening on July 3.

Deputy Alan Taylor, the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Department, Washington County EMS and the County Coroner all assisted on the scene.

Combs said the accident is still under investigation.

Obituaries on both boys can be found with the deaths inside this section.

--George Browning