

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION
JACKSON POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BY: Chief Gill Kendrick

***Joint Investigation by Jackson Police and Fire
Departments Conclude that Man Found in Vehicle in
Lincoln Courts Died from Smoke Inhalation, Death Ruled
Accident***

A joint investigation by the Jackson Police and Fire Departments has determined that Marcus Williams' death was an accident. On Sunday, around 6:50 a.m., Jackson police received a call that Williams, 26, was found alone and unresponsive inside his girlfriend's Jeep Cherokee. The vehicle was parked in front of the 203 building in Lincoln Courts, where Williams lived. There was evidence that a fire had started inside the Cherokee but was not burning when police arrived. An arson investigator was called to the scene.

The investigative findings concluded that Williams went to the Cherokee late Saturday night to listen to music. Fire investigators indicated that the fire was possibly caused by overheating of the exhaust system due to excessive idling. The fire appeared to have been primarily in the smoldering phase for the majority of the burn time, creating tremendous amounts of smoke and heat without open burning and visible flame.

An autopsy performed at the state Medical Examiner's Office in Nashville revealed that Williams died from smoke inhalation and there was no other trauma to his body. No foul play is suspected and the case is closed.