



Putnam County Justice Center  
421 East Spring Street • Cookeville, TN 38501  
Phone: 931.528.8484 • Fax: 931.528.7043

## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 8/24/2015

### **Body Discovered at Burgess Falls State Park**

PUTNAM COUNTY, TN – On August 23, 2015, a body was discovered at Burgess Falls State Park at the bottom of the middle falls. The body was discovered by a visitor at the park who was looking down at the bottom of the falls from the top. State park rangers were notified along with Putnam County Sheriff's Department, Putnam County Emergency Medical Services and Putnam County Rescue Squad. The body was identified as 27-year old Lamouki Aref Motamedi. It appeared from preliminary investigation that Motamedi had been viewing the falls from the top and slipped and fell. The falls observation deck had been damaged from rain storms a few months ago, and the observation deck was closed for repairs. The area was fenced off and signs were posted in the area prohibiting access to the observation deck. It is unknown when Motamedi arrived at the park, and at this point in the investigation, it appears he was alone. Motamedi was a student at Tennessee Tech University.

**Media contact:**

Beth Nelson, PIO

[sheriffpio@putnamcountyttn.gov](mailto:sheriffpio@putnamcountyttn.gov)

*“Earning the Public Trust Every Day!”*