

## **Brown County Sheriff's Office**

**Gordon Ellis, Sheriff**

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### **Press Release**

DATE: November 3, 2022

OFFICE POINT OF CONTACT: Sheriff Gordon Ellis

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On November 2, 2022 at approximately 6:58PM, a call was received by the the Brown County Communications Center regarding 30 year old Joseph Hauser, who resides at 14992 State Route 68, Mt. Orab, Ohio. Mr. Hauser's date of birth is 10/30/1992. His girlfriend, Courtney Spencer, found him deceased in the back yard with an apparent gunshot wound to the abdomen. Multiple units from the Brown County Sheriff's Office responded the scene. Detectives and evidence collection personnel from the Sheriff's Office arrived, collected evidence and processed the scene.

A 9mm handgun was found in the front sweatshirt pocket of the victim, and a single shell casing was found in the same pocket of the sweatshirt. Fabric from the sweatshirt was found to be lodged in the slide of the firearm. The handgun appears to have been discharged in the pocket of the sweatshirt. A cell phone belonging to the Victim was recovered at the scene.

The initial evidence from the current investigation indicates that the victim died as a result of an accidental handgun discharge. The handgun and the cell phone were taken and further forensic tests will be performed. The investigation into this incident continues at this time.

Sheriff Gordon Ellis