



Highlands County Sheriff's Office

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NEWS RELEASE

Water Tank Rupture Final Update

Lake Placid, FL

As previously reported, a 300,000 gallon ground level water tank ruptured on Thursday, April 7th at the former Georgia Pacific industrial plant located at 400 State Road 70 in Lake Placid. The resulting wave of water severely damaged an adjacent concrete block building where two United-Fire workers were making repairs on a pump. The workers, identified as Jon Martinez and Jason Steele, were killed in the partial collapse of this building.

At this time the case remains open however further investigation has been turned over to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

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