

# South Bend Tribune

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## CRIME

# Kayaker pulled from St. Joseph River Wednesday pronounced dead

**Tribune Report** South Bend Tribune

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NILES — A kayaker who was missing for several hours Wednesday morning and was later pulled from the St. Joseph River mid-afternoon has died.

Emergency crews were called at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, after three adult male kayakers had entered the water near a dam south of the Broadway Bridge. A fourth man who had not entered the water called emergency crews when the kayakers "quickly had a problem," Niles police said.

One of the kayakers was able to make it to shore and rescue himself, according to Niles Fire Chief Larry Lamb. Another man had grabbed hold of a safety barrier above the dam and was rescued there, Lamb said. The final kayaker was initially unaccounted for. The body of that kayaker, who was wearing a purple life vest, was found in the river at 12:20 p.m.

He had been swept under and trapped beneath a log lodged against the dam, Lamb said.

Niles police say the kayaker was taken to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead. The kayakers' identities were not released Wednesday as relatives were being notified.