

Car, Bodies Found in Search for Missing Teens

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The discovery of a bumper along Interstate 20 in eastern South Carolina has lead to the discovery of the submerged car that two Catawba County teens were traveling in—and to their bodies. The search for the missing Sherrills Ford teens ended late Sunday afternoon when the car in they left in was found submerged in the Wateree River. Joe Pierce, father of Ray Pierce, told the Hickory Daily Record that Jake Ziegler, 18 and Ray Pierce, 17 were found dead in the car. The S.C. Highway Patrol is investigating what appears to be a traffic collision, according to Troop 1 of the SC SHP, Brent Kelly, public information officer, said the multidisciplinary accident team is working the investigation. Searchers found the bumper with the tag of the car about 4:30 Sunday afternoon in the median of the interstate, leading to the discovery of the car in the water nearby. It was recovered at about 8 last night. The search for the pair was in its 16th day on Sunday.