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Press Release

No signs of foul play in Death of Franklin's Doherty

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The Office of Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey has received information from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner that the remains found Saturday afternoon (May 20) in Franklin, Mass., are indeed those of 20-year-old Michael Doherty, the subject of an extensive search by local law enforcement since being reported missing on May 14, 2017.

While the OCME has not yet issued a final report, preliminary information from that office indicates that no signs of trauma or foul play were evident. The cause and manner of death remain undetermined pending additional testing.

"Our first thought is with Michael's family and friends," District Attorney Morrissey said. "To them we extend our sincere condolences. I would be remiss if I did not thank the Franklin Police, regional and state law enforcement and so many in the community for their days and days of sustained searching in difficult terrain. The result was not what we had hoped."