



Greg Champagne  
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# **N e w s      R e l e a s e**

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## **Person Jumping from the Luling Bridge Identified**

The St. Charles Sheriff's Office has identified the person who jumped from the Hale Boggs Mississippi River Bridge in Luling just after 10:00 AM today as Pedro Paez, 53 year old, of 2605 Tupelo St. Kenner, LA

Paez parked his van on the shoulder of I-310 southbound on the top of the Hale Boggs Bridge. A deputy passing by observed Mr. Paez on the shoulder of the roadway seated in a wheelchair. As the deputy stopped to offer assistance, Paez pulled himself up onto the rail on the side of the bridge. Deputies spoke to Mr. Paez, who stated that he was recently diagnosed with a terminal illness and could not stand the pain, at which time he let go of the rail falling into the river below.

A tug boat crew, which was working in the area, recovered Mr. Paez's body.