



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

05/16/2025

JUVENILES OVERDOSE AFTER USING VAPING DEVICE

PUTNAM COUNTY, TN- On Wednesday, May 14, 2025, the Putnam County Sheriff's Office began an investigation regarding two separate juveniles who had apparent signs of an overdose and were being treated at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. One juvenile was ultimately transported by helicopter to Vanderbilt Hospital due to their severity of illness.

As a result of the investigation, Detectives and SRO Deputies learned that a male juvenile, at Upperman High School had obtained, what is believed to be, a THC vape device. He then took it to school with him and shared the vape with the same students that suffered from the apparent overdose issues that sent them to the hospital.

Detectives were able to recover the vape device from the juvenile's residence and it will be sent for testing by the TBI.

The juvenile who brought the vape device to school and shared it with his other classmates was subsequently taken into custody and charged with Reckless Endangerment and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He is currently in custody at the Putnam County Juvenile Detention Center.

Sheriff Farris stated, "The safety and health of our children is our top priority. I urge parents and guardians to talk to your children about the consequences and dangers of vaping these unknown products."

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