

Arm found at rail yard identified as that of Montana man

Written by Jonathan Shorman
Dec. 22

news-leader.com

The human arm traveled halfway across the country for nearly a month before finally falling from a train in Springfield on Monday. On Friday, police identified the man who lost the limb.

William E. Escudero, 29, of Libby, Mont., died when he stepped in front of a train in Libby, according to a news release from the Springfield Police Department.

The arm appears to have been caught in the undercarriage of the train and was not found during the initial investigation of the death.

BNSF employees found the arm Monday afternoon along train tracks in the 1700 block of North Kansas Expressway in Springfield, according to a police report.

An obituary in The Western News, a newspaper covering Libby, said Escudero died Jan. 15.

Escudero was married and had three children. He grew up in Florida and moved to Montana in 2007. The obituary said he enjoyed fishing and spending time with his family.

A message left with an area coroner in Montana seeking further information about the death of Escudero was not returned.

Andy Williams, BNSF spokesman, had confirmed that the arm had been found but referred further inquiries to police.

According to the release, the Missouri Highway Patrol's forensic laboratory conducted a fingerprint analysis after an investigation by the Greene County Medical Examiner's office.