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the first open-area death of the season

Gallup Police Department officials believe the death a man found on Gallup's east side Dec. 8 may be exposure related.

Police responded to a call on a report of a dead body south of KFC east, 2504 E. Highway 66, shortly after 11 am.

The man was later identified as Ambrose Lincoln, 65, of Window Rock, Ariz. His body was found behind a shed.

Police didn't give an estimated time of death, but this likely marks the first open-area death of the winter season.

"It looks like weather played a factor, but his body has been sent to OMI [Office of the Medical

Investigator] in Albuquerque for autopsy," GPD Capt. Marinda Spencer said.

Lincoln is listed on the Navajo Nation's Public Sex Offender Registry. He hadn't updated his address since 2014, and was considered an absconder living on the streets of Gallup, according to navajo.nsopw.gov.

He was a "Tier 3" offender, convicted of sexual abuse of a minor in July 2007.