

## Rescuers Search For Boaters In River

Last Update: 5/31 12:58 pm



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The search-and-rescue operation continues for at least two boaters tossed into the Ohio River Friday night.

Rescuers found the speedboat downstream from Coney Island, but no sign of the boaters.

Witnesses tell 9News they saw the boat speeding on the Ohio River between the I-275 bridge and Rivertowne Marina, when suddenly the speed boat turned sharply and the bow dipped briefly below the surface.

Fisherman on the riverbank saw a large spray of water, like a rooster tail, then watched as the now-empty boat idled in circles, flowing downstream with the current.

Rescue boats from multiple Ohio and Kentucky agencies converged on the scene, but they were delayed by at least 10-minutes because the initial call gave the location at the Big Mac (I-471) bridge downtown – miles from the actual scene.

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Confusion persisted once they got to the general area as the empty boat drifted in the current nearly a mile from where the occupants were ejected.

Rescue boats circled in vain – searching a long stretch of dark, churning water – with no one in sight.

Sonar devices and search lights are being used, but divers were not searching in the water late Friday night.

Authorities found an Ohio registration number on the bow of the boat and are trying to find out who might have been on that boat.

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