



**Chandra X-ray  
Observatory Center**

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**NGC 1399:** An elliptical galaxy in the Fornax cluster that contains an ultraluminous X-ray source.  
(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/UA/J. Irwin; Optical: NASA/STScI)

**Caption:** X-rays from Chandra and optical spectra from the Magellan telescopes provide evidence that a star was destroyed a black hole in a globular cluster. The Chandra data (blue) reveal a so-called ultraluminous X-ray source. When combined with optical observations, it suggests that a white dwarf star strayed too close to an intermediate-mass black hole and was ripped apart by tidal forces. If confirmed, this would be the first substantiation that globular clusters contain this middle-sized class of black hole.

**Scale:** Image is 3 arcmin across.

*Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image*

*CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory*