



Chelan County Sheriff's Office

Brian Burnett, Sheriff

Law and Justice Bldg ★ 401 Washington Street #1 ★ Wenatchee, WA 98801
Phone: (509) 667-6851 ★ Fax: (509) 667-6860

For Immediate Release

Contact: Sgt Kent Sisson

Incident #: 14c13341

Theft Suspect Flees into Wenatchee River

Phone: 509-630-7506

Date: Friday 12/13/2014

<http://www.co.chelan.wa.us>

Update: 12/15/2014 – Identity of Missing Subject Released

Search efforts continued through the weekend for the male subject that jumped into the Wenatchee River on Friday in an apparent attempt to avoid contact with deputies. Alen Bolic (28yoa) with a last known address in Tacoma, WA has not been seen since entering the river near the mouth of the Tumwater Canyon Friday afternoon. On Saturday, the agency's swift water rescue team searched eddies downstream from the point Bolic was last seen. A sheriff's office helicopter was used to check a long section of the river from above. Search coordinators believe there is a high probability Bolic drowned a short time after entering the very cold water. He was last seen floating towards a section of white water rapids just south of the Tumwater Canyon. Family members have been contacted in the matter.

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Sheriff Brian Burnett reports Chelan County deputies are searching for a 28 year old male theft suspect who fled into the Wenatchee River near Leavenworth this afternoon. The subject has not been seen since entering the river near the entrance to Tumwater Canyon at approximately 2:20pm.

Deputies had been attempting to locate the suspect since Monday when he was captured on video stealing two bottles of liquor from a Leavenworth grocery store. The subject is known as a homeless transient who has been in the Leavenworth area for about one month. He is also a person of interest in a malicious mischief incident which occurred earlier this week.

At approximately 1:20pm this afternoon a deputy observed the subject walking along Highway 2 in downtown Leavenworth. When deputies attempted make contact with him, he fled toward Black Bird Island and was later observed by citizens running away from deputies on a park trail toward the Enchantment Park. Deputies were unable to locate him at that time.

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John Wisemore
Undersheriff



Jason Mathews
Chief of Special Operations



Valerie Karnes
Chief Civil Deputy



Jan Brincat
Executive Assistant



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Later in the afternoon, deputies went to check for the suspect at a camping location commonly used by transients along the Wenatchee River at the mouth of the Tumwater Canyon. The suspect was identified at that location and immediately fled toward the river when he noticed deputies approaching from a distance. He was verbally directed to stop, but ignored that order and jumped into the water from the shoreline. He began swimming across the swollen river, but was swept downstream. At one point, the subject was seen momentarily grasping a large boulder in the river several hundred yards downstream. The subject apparently lost his grip of the boulder after a few seconds and again began floating/swimming down the river toward a section of rapids.

Several deputies, Chelan County Fire District 3 personnel, Cascade medics, and citizens responded and began searching for the subject in, or along the river. The search effort continued until dusk with no sign of the subject. He was last seen wearing a bright green tee-shirt and blue jeans. The search will resume again on Saturday morning. At this time, it is unknown if he drowned, or exited the river and is hiding from law enforcement.

The subject's name is being withheld until relatives can be identified and then contacted in this matter.

Questions relating to this media release can be directed to Sergeant Kent Sisson at the Sheriff's Office.

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