



# 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: Sergeant Kent Sisson

Incident #: **14c03817 - Injured Climber**

**Icicle Drainage – Chelan County**

Phone: 509-630-7506

Date: **05/04/2014**

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

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Sheriff Brian Burnett reports a 23 year old male climber was injured in a fall Saturday in the Icicle drainage recreation area approximately seven miles west of Leavenworth.

The RIVERCOM dispatch center and deputies were initially notified by the International Emergency Response Coordination Center of an emergency beacon transmission being received for coordinates that plotted approximately 2,500ft above milepost 6 ½ on the Icicle Road. Deputies responded to the area and were eventually contacted at 1:33pm by a male subject who had hiked out to advise his climbing partner, Jacob Smith (of Lynwood, WA) had fallen and fractured his ankle while ascending what is known as the "Pork Chop Express" route in the drainage. Smith had fallen approximately 10 -15 feet when a hand hold broke free during the climb.

Chelan County Search and Rescue coordinators inserted a ground team of rescue personnel from Icicle Road up to the scene. Further, four Chelan County Mountain Rescue members, including a physician were inserted by the Sheriff's Office helicopter (AIR20) closer to Smith's location. Rescuers reached him by 5:20pm.

Due to the steep rocky terrain and 4,600ft elevation of the scene, a hoist capable helicopter was requested through the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) to remove Smith. Initially, a helicopter was

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Undersheriff



**Mike Harris**  
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**Jason Mathews**  
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**Jan Brinca**  
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dispatched and responded from Naval Base Whidbey Island, but that aircraft had to abort the mission due to extreme weather conditions on the west side of the Cascade Mountains. A second hoist capable aircraft was eventually deployed by the AFRCC from Fairchild AFB in Spokane late Saturday evening. Smith was hoisted from the accident scene at 12:50am on Sunday. He was flown to Pangborn Airport and then transported to Central Washington Hospital in Wenatchee by ambulance. At last report he was in stable condition.

Inquiries concerning this release can be directed to Sergeant Kent Sisson at the contact number above.

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