



# 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 #: 15c05684 / 15c05688

**Two Search & Rescue Missions – West Chelan County**

Phone: 509-667-6863

Date: 05/31/2015

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

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The Chelan County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with Chelan County Mountain Rescue, and assistance from the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office handled two separate rescue missions in west Chelan County on Sunday.

At 9:22am, Sheriff's Office search and rescue coordinators were advised of an ill climber on the Serpentine Arete route to Dragontail Peak in the Enchantments. In a cell phone call placed by the subject's climbing partner to RIVERCOM dispatch, it was determined a 45 year old male was possibly suffering a diabetic episode and was generally not feeling well on the mountain. He was unable to descend the mountain under his own power. The climbing partner had to trek a distance further up the mountain to obtain cell service to make the 911 call.

Rescue coordinators contacted Chelan County Mountain Rescue personnel to assist while also launching a Sheriff's Office helicopter to attempt to locate the subject on the mountain. After locating the patient at the 7,700 foot level, it was determined the most practical rescue would be the use of a hoist capable helicopter.

Snohomish County's "SnoHawk Ten" crew was contacted and responded to conduct the hoist extrication. Michael Meronek – 45 years of age from Portland, OR - was flown to the mission staging area at the Leavenworth Fish Hatchery at 2:46pm and examined by medics. He was determined to be in stable condition.

At 11:35am while dealing with the Dragontail incident, rescue coordinators were advised of a female rock climber who had been injured in a fall approximately four miles up the Icicle Road. Manisha Powar – 36 years of age from Seattle, WA – had fallen while climbing the 'Careno Crag' area in the Icicle drainage. Reports from the

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Undersheriff

★ **Jason Mathews** ★  
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★ **Jan Br...** ★  
Executive A...



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scene advised Powar had a broken leg and possible broken ribs. Chelan County Mountain Rescue resources which had arrived at the Fish Hatchery staging area for the Dragontail Peak mission were quickly diverted to the fallen climber incident. Rescuers were able to climb to Powar's location and assess her condition. Powar was packaged into a litter and lowered via a rope system to the base of the rock climbing area. She was then carried by litter out to an awaiting Cascade Ambulance on Icicle Road. At Central Washington Hospital it was confirmed Powar has a broken left lower leg, fractured ribs, and other minor injuries. She is in stable condition.

Powar advises she was the lead climber and lost her hand grip on a rock while ascending a route up the "Careno Crag" with a group of three other rock climbers. Powar said she fell bouncing off of one ledge and then landing on a lower ledge.

Inquiries concerning this media release can be directed to Sergeant Kent Sisson with the Chelan County Sheriff's Office (509-630-7506).

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