



Mike Morrison | Sheriff

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Deputy Mike Mcleod

Incident #: 24C04516

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Date: 05/22/2024

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

Chelan County Sheriff Mike Morrison reports, on 05/22/2024, at approximately 0837 hours, Chelan County Deputies responded to a report of a male subject who fell into the Wenatchee River near Black Bird Island in Leavenworth, WA.

Cascade Medical and Chelan County Fire District # 3 responded to the area of the call with Chelan County Deputies. The subject, 60-year-old Victor V. Martin, was soon found stuck on a small island in the middle of the river.

A Fire District # 3 rescue swimmer was able to reach Martin, finding him hypothermic but otherwise uninjured. By chance a passing fishing boat was able to contact Martin and the rescue swimmer later proving them transport to the East Leavenworth boat launch. Upon arrival Martin received medical treatment from awaiting Cascade Medics.

During a subsequent interview with Martin, who was initially evasive, Deputies learned that he had fled from law enforcement on foot the night before and eventually jumped into the river in a continued effort to escape.

Unfortunately, Martin quickly found himself in distress and was forced to take temporary refuge on the island where he was later located. Martin acknowledged the danger of his actions and expressed gratitude for the rescue.

Collaboration between Cascade Medical, Fire District 3, and Chelan County Sheriff's Office was crucial for this successful operation and rescue. Chelan County Sheriff's Office would also like to remind anyone trying to outswim the law that it might seem like a reel-y good idea, but it's more likely to make you the catch of the day! Stay Safe.

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Undersheriff
Dan Ozment



Chief of Operations
Ryan Moody



Chief of Patrol
Seth Buhler



Chief Civil Deputy
Kim Oglesbee



Executive Assistant
April Moore