



San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

Subject: Big Laguna Lake Rescue, Pine Valley

Date of Release: February 24th, 2019

Time of Release: 4:14 PM

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Provider of Information (if different):

SYNOPSIS:

On February 24th, 2019 a rescue call was received by San Diego County Sheriff's Department Dispatch for a male who was snow skiing and had fallen through the ice on Big Laguna Lake. Sheriff's A.S.T.R.E.A.1 in a Bell 407 helicopter responded from the east side of the Cuyamaca Mountains. At 12:00 PM A.S.T.R.E.A.1 was on scene at the lake in approximately 4 minutes. A.S.T.R.E.A. 11 was also requested through Monte Vista Fire Dispatch to assist with a possible hoist rescue due to the nature of the incident.

Shortly after arriving on scene, A.S.T.R.E.A.1 located the subject in the middle of the lake where he was trying to keep his head above water and struggling to hold onto the ice. A.S.T.R.E.A.1 landed nearby and reconfigured the helicopter to use a LIFE 1 Rescue Quick Collar (floatation device) to rescue the male. A.S.T.R.E.A.1 hovered to the male and dropped the rescue quick collar to him where he was able to grab ahold of the self-inflating rescue strap. A.S.T.R.E.A.1 was able to hover and pull the male across the ice approximately 75 yards to shore.

Citizens immediately assisted the male and stripped his wet clothing off of his body. Dry clothes from other hikers were put on the male who was showing signs of severe hypothermia. The male was loaded into the back of A.S.T.R.E.A.1 and flown to a nearby landing zone off of Sunrise Highway. The male was transferred to R.E.A.C.H. 21, an air medivac helicopter, where he was flown directly to Sharp Grossmont Hospital.

Call Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477 with information and you will remain anonymous. You can also download the P3 anonymous tip app. You may be eligible for up to a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest.

Media Relations – (858) 974-2259
Watch Commander – (858) 565-5555
PAD-3 Rev. 11/18