

San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

Subject: Missing Person in the area of Ocotillo Wells State Park

Date of Release: June 22, 2018

Time of Release: 9:00 PM

Media Contact: Lt. Damon Blankenbaker

Email Address of Contact: damon.blankenbaker@sdsheriff.org

Telephone Number of Contact: 760-787-2240

Provider of Information (if different):

SYNOPSIS:

California State Parks Rangers received a call on June 21st at about 4:30 PM that a man was missing and was presumably stuck in sand in the area of Ocotillo Wells, between Borrego Springs and the Salton Sea. Rangers and Sheriff's ASTREA searched the area on the 21st, for several hours, but did not locate the missing person or his vehicle.

State Park Rangers resumed the search Friday morning, the 22nd of June, and located the missing man's vehicle in a remote area of the park. State Park Rangers then called the Sheriff's Department to assist in the search.

Due to the hot conditions and the vast area to search, the Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit was activated, and quickly began to assist in the search efforts. At about 5:00 PM on the 22nd of June, a body of a deceased male was located approximately four miles from the abandoned vehicle. The Sheriff's Rural Enforcement team has taken over responsibility for the investigation.

The San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office will conduct an investigation in order to determine the victim's identity, and cause of death. The victim has not yet been identified and the missing persons name has not been released, pending identification and notification by the County Medical Examiner.

Call Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477 with information and you will remain anonymous. You may be eligible for up to a \$1,000 reward for information leading to a felony arrest.