



# San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

Subject: Missing Person  
Date of Release: July 10, 2018  
Time of Release: 1:50 p.m.  
Media Contact: Sgt. Howard Kluge  
Email Address of Contact: howard.kluge@sdsheriff.org  
Telephone Number of Contact: (619) 659-2618  
Provider of Information (if different): Sgt. Howard Kluge

### **SYNOPSIS:**

On July 10, 2017 just before 5:30 a.m., deputies from the Alpine Sheriff's Station received a request to check on an overdue interstate big rig driver. The driver's GPS was showing him parked eastbound along the Interstate 8 viewpoint parking lot. The driver was overdue and they had not been able to contact him.

Deputies found the truck parked in the lot with the engine running and the headlights on. The cell phone and wallet of the driver were located inside the cab of the truck. Fearing the driver might have experienced a medical emergency and fallen down the steep viewpoint ravine; deputies requested the assistance of a United States Border Patrol tracking dog, Sheriff's ASTREA (helicopter) and the Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue Unit.

After searching the area by air for approximately 30 minutes the driver was located by ASTREA at the very bottom of the ravine near a creek bed. He had been stuck in the ravine for more than 24-hours and had no means to call for help.

Deputies, as well as Alpine Fire Protection District and CAL FIRE personnel hiked down into the ravine and treated the driver for exposure and dehydration. They were all hoisted out of the steep area by ASTREA. The driver was taken to a hospital for further treatment.