

NEWS RELEASE



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CASE NUMBER: 06-10387

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 12/05/06 7:16 PM

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 12/06/06 11:15 AM

NATURE OF STORY: **SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSION**

LOCATION: Willamette National Forest
USFS Road #2154 near Oakridge

INVOLVED: Anstatt, Joseph
Age 66
Pennington, New Jersey

DETAILS:

Last night the Lane County Sheriff's Office received information of a stranded motorist on a Forest Service road near Oakridge. Search and Rescue Coordinator John Miller assembled a response team and sent them to this location.

Yesterday afternoon Joseph Anstatt left Eugene and was going to Crater Lake. He was in Eugene visiting from New Jersey. His original route was to be HWY 58 to HWY 97 to Crater Lake. When he got to Oakridge he looked at the map and decided to take a short cut.

Just east of Oakridge he took USFS road 2100 near Hills Creek Reservoir. He was just inside the Douglass County Line when his Ford SUV got stuck, with no snow chains.

Anstatt left his vehicle and walked 6 miles before finding a cell phone signal. Once he got a signal he called Oakridge 911.

SAR Coordinator John Miller dispatched the Special Vehicles Group (4x4) to this area to locate and assist Anstatt. The response team located him about 2:00AM. He had returned to his vehicle and waited for assistance to arrive. The team assisted with the recovery of his vehicle and helped him get back to Oakridge.

The SAR mission was concluded around 4:00AM. No injuries were reported to Anstatt or any members of the search team.

The Special Vehicles Group (4x4) is 1 of 8 specialty volunteer groups that assist the Lane County Sheriff's Office on Search and Rescue missions. The group consists of 16 volunteers. They volunteer their vehicles and services during emergencies. This group was formed in 2003, and assists with approximately 8-12 missions per year.

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For additional information contact: SAR Coordinator John Miller 682-8544

Prepared by: Sgt. Clint Riley