
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE



CASE NUMBER: 2011-7087

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 09/24/2011 at 1:00PM

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 09/25/2011 at 11:30AM

NATURE OF STORY: Climbing Fatality - North Sister, Three Sisters Wilderness

LOCATION: North Sister Mountain

Involved: Jones, Brian C. 37 year old Eugene resident

DETAILS:

Deschutes and Lane Counties received a 911 call from a climbing partner of Jones who advised that Jones had fallen while climbing the North Sister on Saturday, 09/24/2011. It was determined that Jones had fallen down the West face gullies near the summit as witnessed by his partner.

An Air National Guard Black Hawk helicopter was requested to assist in both the search and possible rescue operation. Members of Deschutes Search and Rescue, Eugene Mountain Rescue, and Corvallis Mountain Rescue participated in the ground portion of the operation as well.

A deceased subject matching Jones's description was located by the Air Guard in the search area. They were unable to access him due to high winds at the 9,000 foot elevation level. Ground teams were also repelled this morning by 50-60 MPH winds and blowing snow creating near whiteout conditions. Due to the extreme hazards in the area and lack of visibility, the ground teams returned to their respective agencies until weather improves.

Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

Prepared by: John Miller, Search and Rescue Coordinator
(541) 682-8544 or email at john.miller@co.lane.or.us