

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mark A. Hartwig Fire Chief / Fire Warden

DATE: January 10, 2016 CONTACT: Dean Dickover, Captain/Public Information Officer (760)617-7396

Man Rescued from Suspended Vehicle

| Date/Time: | January 9, 2016 / 1343 hrs. |
|-------------------|--|
| Location: | National Trails Hwy, South of Goffs, Ca. |
| Incident: | Traffic Collision with Rescue |

Summary: At approximately 1:45 p.m., San Bernardino County Fire received a report from a man who stated he had "crashed and was hanging off of a bridge". When firefighters arrived, they found a rented 2014 Nissan Sentra suspended approximately 8' above a wash on a collapsed section of bridge. Emergency crews were able to speak to the driver asking him to remain calm and still while the vehicle was stabilized.

Utilizing the available resources at the scene, the vehicle was stabilized allowing the fire crew to gain entry and assess the victim. It was determined that the man's injuries required transport to a "Trauma Center". The victim was subsequently transported to a hospital in the Las Vegas area by air.

The driver and sole occupant of the vehicle stated to dispatchers that he looked down at his phone just before he hit the "K-rail" that was blocking the washed out bridge. The driver had apparently driven around two sets of barricades to get onto National Trails Highway from Interstate 40, near Mountain Springs Rd.

The resolution of the incident was a team effort consisting of San Bernardino County Fire, Baker Ambulance, the California Highway Patrol, Active Tow, and Care flight. For pictures of this incident, visit www.sbcfire.org and click "Latest News".

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157 West Fifth St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, Ca. 92415-0451