News Headlines 02/02-06/2023

- Illegal Parking Clogging Up SoCal Mountain Roads, Delaying Rescues
- No injuries after Friday night car fire on northbound 15 freeway in Hesperia
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Aviation Deputies Rescue an Injured Skier in the Baldy Bowl Area of Mount Baldy
Drivers who ignore no parking signs and clog up the roadways on their way to see the snow in Wrightwood are potentially delaying first responders. Now, those drivers are more likely to be cited or towed. Tony Shin reports Feb. 2, 2023.

People who ignore “no parking” signs on their way to see the snow this weekend are more likely to get cited or towed.

More police officers will be out this weekend looking for people who park where they’re not supposed to while on their way to "problem" areas like Wrightwood, Lake Arrowhead and Big Bear, San Bernardino County Fire Department Battalion Chief Steve Tracy said.

The big reason for the crackdown is that people who park illegally are clogging up the roadways and delaying emergency responders.

"We understand that people want to get out and enjoy these mountain communities, but they have to do it responsibly,” Tracy said.

Fire Capt. Brandon McGarvey showed NBC4 several videos of a Jan. 21 rescue that was delayed due to multiple illegally parked cars. A hiker had fallen several hundred feet, but the fire truck couldn’t squeeze through the congested traffic.

First responders had to park the truck and walk along the roadway to reach the “extremely injured” hiker, doubling their response time and putting the man’s life in jeopardy, McGarvey said. Thankfully, a helicopter was able to hoist the victim to safety, but first responders don’t want similar scenes to continue.

McGarvey said people must stick to the parking lots and stay off the roads or face getting their car towed, as well as fines between $45 and $150.

No injuries after Friday night car fire on northbound 15 freeway in Hesperia

By Staff Writer, Victor Valley News Group
February 4, 2023

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — No injuries were reported after a car fire Friday night on the northbound I-15 freeway in Hesperia.

It happened at about 8:12 pm, on February 3, 2023, between Main Street and Bear Valley Road.

McGarvey said people must stick to the parking lots and stay off the roads or face getting their car towed, as well as fines between $45 and $150.

The vehicle involved, a silver four-door Chrysler sedan was occupied by an eight-month-pregnant woman and another small child.

Steven Lozoya Sr. was traveling on the freeway when he saw the vehicle fire and stopped to help. Steven told VVNG the woman was driving from Hemet to Apple Valley when she smelled smoke, lost power, and saw flames coming from underneath the car.

The woman and her child were not injured and Steven allowed them to wait inside his SUV until a ride arrived for them.

San Bernardino County Fire required the no.1 lane to be shut down resulting in a traffic jam on the NB I-15 for several miles.

On Saturday, February 4, 2023, Travis Robinson, 40-years-old, Resident of Mount Baldy, Ca., and his friend hiked the Baldy Bowl, in Mount Baldy, to go snowboarding. They hiked up to the west ridge and Robinson used his snowboard to ride down the Baldy Bowl. Robinson's friend used a pair of skis and followed behind Robinson. About halfway down the bowl, Robinson felt something unusual in his right leg. He thought his bindings broke on his snowboard and when he checked them, he noticed his leg was possibly broken. Robinson was not able to go any further and his friend was able to place a call to 911.

San Bernardino County Fire received the 911 call and requested Sheriff's Aviation to assist in locating Robinson. Sheriff's Aviation Helicopter 40-KING-6 responded and located Robinson at the 8,400' elevation in steep icy terrain. The crew of 40-KING-6 requested Sheriff’s Air Rescue 306 and they responded with two technical ice rescue team members. When Air Rescue 306 arrived, the crew confirmed a hoist rescue would be necessary to get Robinson out safely.

Air Rescue 306 hovered above Robinson and lowered a paramedic and EMT down to him. The medics used their crampons and other technical rescue gear to stabilize them. The medics worked together to place Robinson into a rescue harness and he was then hoisted up to the helicopter, followed by the medics. Robinson was flown to the San Antonio Dam where he was transferred to San Bernardino County Fire and American Medical Response personnel for further treatment.

Air Rescue 306 Crew:

Pilot Corporal Ryan Peppler

Crew Chief Deputy Greg Hanrahan

Technical Rescuer Sergeant Jerred Besheer

Technical Rescuer SBCFD Engineer Mike Demoff

40-KING-6 Crew:

Pilot Sergeant Greg Jimenez
Tactical Flight Officer Deputy Tommy Dickey

Refer: Ryan Peppler, Corporal

Station: Emergency Operations Division - Aviation Unit

Phone No. (909)252-4100

Case No. 032300336

Source: San Bernardino County Sheriff Department.