

Media Release

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office
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Recent Incidents Overview – K9 Traffic Stop with 2 Arrests / Search and Rescue Incident

2 In-Custody following K9 traffic stop - On June 18, 2015, just before 10 PM, a YCSO K9 deputy arrested Porschae Renee Page, 28, from Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Christopher Michael Johnson, 30, also from Minneapolis, after locating marijuana, over \$20,000 in cash, and fraudulent credit cards. Both also had two valid Federal arrest warrants.



Page

Johnson

Background – The K9 deputy stopped the couples red Jeep Compass for moving violations on south I17 near Highway 179. During contact with the driver, Porschae Page, he could detect an odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. A warrant check revealed Page had an active fraud/identity theft federal warrant. Her passenger, Christopher Johnson, provided fake identification to the deputy. Once his true name was confirmed, deputies discovered he was also wanted on a similar federal warrant. Both warrants indicated no bond holds.

During a search of Johnson's person, nearly \$10,000 in cash was found and several apparently fraudulent credit cards. A search inside the vehicle revealed a marijuana cigar and in excess of \$10,000 inside a purse belonging to Page.

Both were booked at the Camp Verde Detention Center and remain in-custody. The currency was held as evidence pending a money laundering investigation.

Search and Rescue – On Sunday, June 21, 2015, at 12:30 AM, deputies were dispatched to an area along the Verde River north of Clarkdale, Arizona, regarding a stranded 33-year-old female. The caller stated that his girlfriend and their 2 sons, ages 6 and 7, had been hiking along the river and around sunset, he and the boys decided to return to their motorhome requiring a nearly 200' climb up a canyon wall. His girlfriend stayed back and once darkness fell, she felt she could not climb out on her own. Her

boyfriend indicated she did not have a flashlight or cell phone, was not dressed for cold weather, and was becoming distressed. At the scene, deputies could hear the subject in the canyon, but could not understand her.

Deputies called out the Yavapai County Sheriff's Rescue Team's Back Country Unit, who were assembled by 3AM and had to rapel down the canyon wall to access the stranded female. Once they determined she was not in immediate distress, the team was able to slowly escort her out via a wash and reunite her with family around 5AM. The family was very appreciative regarding the efforts of rescue teams working throughout the night to insure her safety.

Although the 4some should have concluded their hike earlier to avoid darkness and the likelihood of confronting steep terrain returning to camp, they did the right thing concerning the stranded hiker by waiting for rescue professionals to get her out safely. There was a very obvious risk of injury if she had tried to maneuver her way out in pitch black darkness against unfamiliar and steep terrain.

Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:

www.ycsoaz.gov