

MARIPOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

P.O. Box 276
Mariposa, CA 95338

CA0220000

Phone (209) 966-3615
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Case Number
MG1700802

Date
06/23/17

Deputy
M.CANTER

CASE NARRATIVE

Elements:

Missing Persons

Synopsis:

On 06/23/2017, at approximately 1546 hours, I was dispatched to the Briceburg area (at Cable Rock) in Mariposa County for a missing person. Upon arrival I met with the reporting party Brandi Willey. Brandi stated Ronnie Cole jumped into the river and never made it back to shore. Search and Rescue (SAR) was dispatched to the scene. At approximately 2030 hours, search efforts were called off due to poor lighting and swift water conditions and will resume the morning of 06/24/2017. Ronnie Cole was entered MUPS NCIC#3291717400350. Search and Rescue incident #17-007.

Details:

On 06/23/2017, at approximately 1546 hours, I was dispatched to Briceburg area of Cable Rock in Mariposa County for a missing person. Upon arrival I met with the reporting party Brandi Willey and Debi' Jean Congdon.

Brandi stated she and Debi' Jean picked up Ronnie Cole at Highway 49S and Ashworth, because Ronnie vehicle was disabled. Brandi stated the three of them went down to Briceburg area of Cable Rock to cool off in the river while waiting for the tow-truck to arrive to tow Ronnie's truck. Brandi stated at approximately 1430 hours Ronnie jumped into the river approximately 50 yards east of Cable Rock. Brandi Stated Ronnie was swimming towards shore and then Brandi stated she lost sight of Ronnie at around Cable Rock. Brandi stated she got into her vehicle to try to find Ronnie along the bank and he was nowhere to be found. I asked Brandi if there was any alcohol or drugs involved, and she stated no. I asked Brandi what Ronnie was wearing; she stated blue jeans, black shoes and no shirt. Brandi was clearly upset and stated her and Ronnie where down at Cable Rock two weeks ago, and Ronnie jumped in the water then.

It should be noted; Brandi informed me that she had contacted some of Ronnie's family members prior to my arrival.

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CHP Officer D. Hoff was on scene. Officer Hoff informed me at approximately 1330 hours she contacted Ronnie Cole at Highway 49S and Ashworth due to Ronnie's vehicle being disabled. Officer Hoff stated it looked like Ronnie was driving too fast and tried to make the turn off the Highway and hit the curb. Officer Hoff stated Ronnie informed her that he contacted the tow company already, and Officer Hoff stated she didn't make a report since Ronnie had already made arrangements for his vehicle to be towed. Officer Hoff stated Ronnie did not show any signs of being impaired nor did she smell any alcohol emitting from his person at that time.

Dispatch was advised to call out Chaplain Von Reader and Chaplin Horst to the scene. They arrived at approximately 1820 hours.

Ronnie's Father, Franklin (Frank) Cole, arrived at approximately 1900 hours. I informed Frank of the situation and the efforts that are taking place to locate his son Ronnie.

Frank appeared angry with the family members that were already present on scene and stated "know you care". Frank seemed in disbelief, and said Ronnie's probably at their property on the back side of Telegraph because he's trying to get away from Brandi. Frank took off walking west towards the first campground, stating he was going to look for Ronnie.

Due to the large crowd forming at the scene, family members we informed to move to the visitor's center located at the entrance of Briceburg.

At approximately 2030 hours I advised Frank, that the search efforts are being called off due to poor lighting and swift water conditions. I informed Frank the search efforts would resume in the morning. Frank became very upset, stating "I pay my taxes; you know how many homes I own in this town". Frank stated he was going to get his Husqvarna and go up on the back side of Telegraph and continue looking for Ronnie.

It should be noted as Frank was about to leave the scene Frank stated approximately 2 weeks ago Ronnie told his father he didn't want to live anymore. Frank stated Ronnie told him "this life is fucked and I can't get ahead". I asked Frank if he thought Ronnie would ever commit suicide, and Frank stated no, Ronnie was just feeling depressed.

I entered Ronnie into MUPS (NCIC#3291717400350), due to the scanner being down I was unable to attach a copy to this report.

Recommendations:

Remain active.

Follow-up:

Attachments:

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Approved by : J.BOBMAN Date : 06/24/2017 06:54 AM