

CONTACT:
Tanny M. McGinnis
Community Relations Deputy
Garfield County Sheriff's Office
107 8th Street
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

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PRESS RELEASE GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Garfield County, Colorado; At approximately 9:45 yesterday morning the Rifle Fire Protection District was dispatched to a Base Jumper accident near Anvil Points, West of Rifle.

Rifle Fire quickly evaluated the situation and requested the assistance of Garfield County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (GCSO Search and Rescue). The victim was located approximately 100 yards below a cliff face on a very loose 1,500 foot elevation screen field. Two other Base Jumpers at the site hiked 1-2 hours back up to the victim and stayed in contact via cell and Radio with the Garfield County Emergency Communications Center and GCSO Search and Rescues staging area.

Due to the technical nature of the rescue and the need for a great deal of manpower, Mesa County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue along with Mountain Rescue Aspen were requested as mutual aid. A medical helicopter was put on standby; during that process a couple Blackhawk helicopters were observed flying up the valley. Believed to be Army National Guard resources, rescuers made contact and requested assistance. There were several of these military helicopters in the area at that time and one was a medical helo with a hoist.

The rescue staging site and the Landing Zone were at the base of the valley below Anvil Points. At one time 40 personnel were involved in this rescue. Consisting of Command, Support, Fire, Technical Rescue members and Air assets all met at that location.

St. Anthony's Flight for Life was brought in and staged at the Landing Zone along with an ambulance. The Blackhawk flew overhead and determined that they would attempt a hoist rescue. The medic was lowered from the helo 3 times as each time he was lowered; he slid down the screen too far from the victim. The medic and helo were eventually able to make contact with the victim and hoist him out.

The medical Blackhawk brought the victim down to the Landing Zone/Staging area where he was assessed by the ambulance crew, then loaded into Flight for Life and flown to an unknown Medical Facility. The victim was alert, conscious and oriented.

Resources involved: Rifle Fire Protection District, Garfield County Sheriff's Office, Garfield County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue, Mesa County Sheriff's Deputies, Mesa County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue, Mountain Rescue Aspen, St. Anthony's Flight for Life, and the Colorado Army National Guard.

All units were released at approximately 2:00 p.m.

No further information available at this time, note the attached photos.