

LARIMER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF'S COMMENDATION

“Dependability” – *Fulfilling what I consented to so, even if it means unexpected sacrifice.*

“Availability” – *Making my own schedule and priorities secondary to the wishes of those is serve.*

Early Sunday morning, April 26, 2009, notification was received that a 21 year old female had become stuck in a crevice on Old Man Mountain just outside the Town of Estes Park. Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department advised that they were responding to the call and requested additional help from the Larimer County Search and Rescue Team, Larimer County Emergency Services, and Rocky Mountain National Park Rangers.

The subject, who had been stuck in the crevice for many hours was cared for by the Estes Park Firefighters and Ambulance personnel. Due to low temperatures and light rain and snow falling, it took a lot of work just to try to keep the subject warm. Larimer County Search and Rescue Team members and Rocky Mountain National Park Rangers began working on freeing the subject. Due to the positioning of the individual it was determined that the best way to remove her was to rig three separate rope systems. This would enable rescuers to pull at different points of her body independently or at the same time depending on what was necessary. Additionally, vegetable oil was used to assist with removing the subject from the course rock. After eight hours of pulling and prying, the subject was finally freed from the crevice, loaded into a litter, lowered down a rock face, and carried to a waiting ambulance. The subject was transported to the Estes Park Medical Center where she was treated for hypothermia and irregular blood chemistry.

This mission would not have been successful without the cooperative efforts of these dedicated public servants.

The Larimer County Search and Rescue Team is being recognized for their “Dependability” and “Availability” and is presented this Sheriff’s Commendation on this date, July 1, 2009



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Alderden".

JIM ALDERDEN
SHERIFF