

## Larimer County Search & Rescue, Inc 1303 N. Shields Street Fort Collins, Colorado 80524-1024 970-498-5314

## **NEWS RELEASE / PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**

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DATE: March 31, 2008

SUBJECT: Larimer County Search and Rescue – Dave Hake Achieves Sign Cutter Certification

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## Dave Hake Awarded "Sign Cutter" Certification

On March 8, 2009 Dave Hake was awarded the prestigious Sign Cutter certification from Joel Hardin Professional Tracking Services (JHPTS). David has been with the Larimer County Search and Rescue Team (LCSAR) in Fort Collins, CO for over 12 years. He is a Search Manager, Rescue Specialist, past Rescue Leader, qualified for Snow SAR, past Snow Rescue Leader, Tracking Team Leader and Tracking instructor with LCSAR. He was one of five trackers who founded Rocky Mountain Trackers (RMT) in 2005 to help promote tracking and to dispatch trackers to incidents around the region. He's currently the Field Coordinator and a Tracking Team Leader for RMT. He has completed a 48 hour Evidence Specialist training through Larimer County Sheriff's Office. He started his Step-by-Step tracking training with Joel Hardin in 1999 and has continued to build and promote tracking as a valuable resource ever since. He's assisted with tracking classes for search and rescue, law enforcement and military around the country for JHPTS and loves to help bring new trackers into this great family.

In an attempt to support his passion for tracking, he owns his own Electrical Contractor business (Daveco) and has been in the electrical field for over 30 years. He also has an endless supply of emotional support from his wife Shannon.

Dave joins the elite group of only ten Sign Cutters in all of the US. Achieving this rating is no small matter and there is a long list of skills that have to be learned and demonstrated. Larimer County and the Rocky Mountain region is extremely fortunate to have Dave not only because of his skills but also because of his dedication to promoting and expanding the art and skill of tracking.

If you would like more info, please visit <u>www.larimercountysar.org</u>, <u>www.rockymountaintrackers.org</u>, <u>www.jhardin-inc.com</u>, or contact Mike Fink <u>mjf10@netzero.net</u> or 970-310-8142.

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///supplemental information/// For more than thirty-five years, former Border Patrol agent **Joel Hardin** has followed the footsteps of others, leaving in his trail thousands of trained trackers for military, law enforcement, search and rescue operations. **Joel Hardin Professional Tracking Services** provides expert trackers, teachers and consultants to meet the specific needs of each client. From world-wide deployment of expert trackers - to training and consultation for trackers and groups wanting to increase awareness of footprint evidence in crime scene and field investigations - there's a service to fit every need.

**Larimer County Search and Rescue, Inc.** is an all-volunteer non-profit corporation that provides professional mountain search and rescue personnel and resources to Larimer County and the Rocky Mountain region as well as providing free public safety education on various outdoor safety topics. The seventy-five-person staff answers eighty emergency SAR calls a year and spends four hundred hours per person per year training, responding to incidents, fund raising and providing public education. Our annual budget averages \$35,000 and is obtained primarily through donations. Team members must provide their own personal gear and transportation.