



PRESS RELEASE

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CHP Helicopter rescues two boaters after their boat sinks

Vallejo, CA - On 10-15-2016, at approximately 1320 hours, California Highway Patrol Helicopter 32 (H-32) received a call, through CHP Dispatch, of a possible rescue involving a sinking boat that had crashed near the south end of Mare Island with 2 persons on board. H-32 responded to the area and, after a brief search, located the sinking boat and two people standing on a rock jetty, trapped by the rising tide and wind swept waves crashing around them. H-32 advised the United States Coast Guard, Station Vallejo who dispatched a rescue boat to the scene. H-32 also notified Vallejo Fire Department of the incident. Fire Department personnel responded to establish a nearby landing zone on Mare Island. Contending with high winds in excess of 30 mph, H-32 successfully hoisted both men, one by one, from the jetty and transported them to Vallejo Fire Department personnel at the landing zone. Both men were found to be uninjured but very happy to be on dry land. The boat had sunk before the rescue was complete.

The California Highway Patrol Golden Gate Division Air Operations unit, based at the Napa County Airport, operates four aircraft (two airplanes and two helicopters) which patrol approximately 6,923 square miles that incorporates a residential population of more than 7 million people. The helicopter is routinely staffed with a CHP Officer/Pilot and a CHP Officer/Paramedic. The helicopter is equipped with a rescue hoist that has 165 feet of cable that can lift patients and/or rescuers, with a cumulative weight up to 450 pounds.

END



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