



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**K9 TEAM ASSISTS IN SEARCH FOR MISSING
NEW MEXICO STATE POLICE HELICOPTER**

K9 Search and Rescue Team Inc. based in Dolores was recently honored to respond to a request from the New Mexico State Police to assist in the search for a NM State Police helicopter that went missing on June 9 with three people on board.

Members of the Team were tasked with providing medical back up and support to the mission while searchers from multiple agencies including NMSP, NM National Guard, and Santa Fe SAR, as well as many volunteers scoured the area surrounding Santa Fe Ski Basin.

The wreckage of the helicopter was located and the bodies of pilot Sgt. Andy Tingwall and Megumi Yamamoto, a hiker who was being rescued at the time of the crash, were recovered. Officer Wesley Cox, who was acting as spotter, was found by rescuers and was airlifted to St. Vincent Regional Medical Center.

The Team wishes to express its sincere condolences to Sgt. Tingwall's and Ms. Yamamoto's families, and our thoughts and prayers go out to Officer Cox's family at this time.

For more information about the K9 Search and Rescue Team, visit their website at www.k9team.org or by calling 882-4746.