

"Conservators of the Peace"

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Contact: Commander Russ Wright Date: May 11, 2009 Case No. 09-0478

Event: Lost Hiker Location: Ochoco National Forest

Media Release

On Sunday, May 10, 2009 at approximately 4:30 pm the Crook County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue was notified of a lost hiker in the Maury Mountains. It was reported that a 76 year old female was last seen at 11:00am in the area of Davis Creek off of the forest service road 1670 about 45 miles East of Prineville, Oregon.

Search and Rescue units responded and contact a Lee Blake and Bill Blake from Bend, it was reported that Lee's wife Jane Blake along with their dog had gone for a short hike and was supposed to return to their meeting destination at 12:00pm. Jane Blake never returned. Search and Rescue units searched through the night. At approximately 2:55am, we received information that a white female was reported to have walked up to a home at 57600 Camp Creek Road. The subject matched the description of the lost hiker. Search and Rescue responded to the location and discovered that Jane Blake and the family dog had walked out of the forest.

Mrs. Blake was wet and cold but in good condition, she had walked approximately 8 miles cross county and across Camp Creek. Jane Blake was not prepared for her experience, she had only a light shirt no boots and no supplies to be out in the forest, when questioned she told us that she was just going for a short walk and never intended on hiking through the night.

At about 5:30am Mrs. Blake was reunited with her family. When asked about the experience she said that this would be a mother's day she will never forget.