

After Action Report

DATE: 24 September 2008

SUBJECT: After Action Report – Ft Bowie

FROM: Robert Hollister

TO: David Noland, CCSO SAR Coordinator

CC: Mike Evans, CC Emergency Services
RACES Team

1. PURPOSE:

This report briefly describes the support provided by the Cochise County RACES Communications Unit to the Cochise County Search and Rescue Unit mission on 24 September 2008. It does not address any SAR specific operational issues.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The RACES team was initially requested to respond to support a Search Mission near Happy Camp, south of Bowie. The initial report was that an ATV had turned over severely injuring one rider and that the second rider had left the scene to get help but was now missing. The first victim was reported to have compound leg fractures from the accident. The occupants of the ATV were reportedly under the influence of alcohol while riding near Happy Camp. After a number of conflicting pieces of information concerning the missing rider were received, the designated CP location was changed a couple of times. The alleged victim was eventually located in San Simon at the truckstop. The RACES team was turned around at mile post 4 on Ft Bowie Rd. There was an initial delay in deploying the MCU as most of the primary drivers were occupied with activities precluding them from being available and/or not in Sierra Vista.

3. LESSONS LEARNED/ISSUES

Alarm Fuse – During the pre-deployment MCU check it was determined that a fuse was blown to the alarm panel. None of the normal panel display lights were functioning. This fuse also affects the basic vehicle alarm function as well as the panel displays. The fuse is located on the AC/DC power distribution panel behind a black plastic cover. A replacement fuse was not on board but was replaced post mission. A package of the appropriate fuse size has been placed in the equipment drawer in the MCU.

Mag Mount Antennas – We are using a mag-mount for one of the antennas on the cab. During the drive out and back, one of the antennas was blown over causing quite a racket as it banged on the roof of the cab. An antenna with a

larger base/stronger magnet should be substituted for the small base to avoid this problem.

4. COMMENTS

MCU Drivers – We really could use a few more trained volunteer drivers to help out and share the driver responsibilities across a larger population. This would reduce the number of times some of the drivers get tapped to respond.

5. ACTION ITEMS

Recruit More Drivers.

Expand the supply of fuses in the supply kit.

Replace the Mag Mount Antenna with one with stronger magnet and wider base.

Appendix – Participants

CCSO SAR Unit

RACES Team

Bob Hollister – MCU Driver

Pat Thies – MCU Operator/Chase

Mike McNeill - MCU Operator/ /Chase

Roger Peters – Home Unit

Charles Campbell – Home Unit

Barb Heck – Home Unit

Bob

Robert L Hollister

Thought for the day:

" The most beautiful discovery true friends make is that they can grow separately without growing apart."

Elisabeth Foley