



# PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 28, 2015

CHP Helicopter rescues two hikers stuck on a cliff near Point Bonita

**(Marin Headlands, Marin, CA)** On February 28, 2015, at approximately 1345 hours, the California Highway Patrol, Golden Gate Division Air Operations Unit, Helicopter 30 (H-30) was requested for a hoist rescue by Southern Marin County Fire. H-30 responded to the cliffs near Black Sands Beach, east of the Point Bonita Lighthouse. It was reported that two victims, who were hiking, had climbed down a steep rock face trying to find a trail, and were unable to climb back up. Southern Marin County Fire had been on scene for approximately 15 minutes prior to the arrival of H-30, and was preparing to set up a technical ropes system to rescue the stranded hikers.

Due to the difficult steep terrain, it was decided to utilize H-30's hoist system to extract the victims. H-30's crew lowered a rescue cinch collar to the first victim who readily secured himself inside the harness. The victim was then hoisted off of the cliff by H-30 and up into the helicopter. H-30 then repositioned to a nearby landing zone and released the first victim. The same process was followed for the second victim.

The air 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 6,923,400 people. The Helicopter is staffed with a CHP Officer/Pilot and a CHP Officer/Paramedic. The Helicopter is equipped with a Breeze Eastern Hoist that has 160 feet of rescue cable that can lift patients into the helicopter that weigh up to 450 pounds.



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