



# PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **CHP Helicopter performs hoist rescue east of Skyline Park**

**Napa, CA** – On March 31, 2015 at approximately 1755 hours the crew of the California Highway Patrol Helicopter (H-32) monitored Napa County Fire dispatch a call of a female horseback rider that had fallen and was seriously injured. The helicopter crew of three CHP Officers: James Andrews/pilot, Matt Gutierrez/Paramedic, and Shaun Bouyea/Paramedic, responded from the Napa County Airport and arrived overhead within five minutes and began searching the remote wooded area for the injured party. The crew finally located the injured party and, due to the remote, rugged canyon area, hoisted Officer Bouyea down to the patient. Officer Bouyea, along with Napa County Fire personnel and AMR ambulance personnel, packaged the patient for hoist rescue. The patient was determined to be a female juvenile that had been reportedly kicked in the head by her horse. The patient was also reportedly wearing a helmet at the time of the incident. While hovering over the wooded area in gusty, swirling winds, Officer Gutierrez lowered the hoist cable and hoisted the young girl up to the helicopter. The crew of H-32 then delivered the patient to the Napa County Airport and transferred care to a CALSTAR helicopter crew for transport to Children's Hospital Oakland for treatment.

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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 rescue cable that can lift patients and/or rescuers, that can weigh up to 450 pounds, into the helicopter.

## END ##

