



# YAKIMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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## Media Release

Date: March 15, 2019  
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Incident: 19C04276

On March 14, 2019, around 13:40, the Yakima County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call from a citizen in the HellRoaring Canyon area of Mount Adams. The caller reported that he was with a couple of friends and were snowmobiling. While hill climbing, one of his friends, a 44-year-old male from Wasco County Oregon, had fallen off his sled and had struck a tree. The caller also said they thought he may have broken some ribs during the impact. He added they would try to get him back to the vehicles. A Search and Rescue mission was generated, and teams were notified to stand by in case they could not make it out.

A little after 14:00, the reporting party called back saying his friend was now slipping in and out of consciousness and they needed immediate help. HellRoaring Canyon, as the name shows, is in an extremely remote and steep section of the Yakama Reservation on the South East side of Mount Adams. The caller reported that it would require a helicopter due to the terrain and snow level. The processes were started for an air support mutual aid need. Also needed was a helicopter with hoist capabilities which limited out options. The Yakima Training Center's United States Army Air Ambulance Detachment (USAAAD), or "Dustoff" unit, was available and after receiving clearance around 14:45, launched and started their 25-minute flight to the location.

Dustoff located the scene and transported the male back to Yakima for treatment at Astria Regional Medical Center. After a quick emergency room triage, he was taken to surgery for internal injuries. He is currently recovery and doing well.

The injured rider, and his family were extremely appreciative to the Dustoff team. The rider said he was sure he was going to die and would not have survived much longer.

Sgt Randy Briscoe  
SAR Coordinator  
Yakima County Sheriff's Office