

# Monterey County Sheriff's Advisory Council **SEARCH & RESCUE**



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**"SO OTHERS MAY LIVE"**

MONTEREY COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S ADVISORY  
COUNCIL  
SEARCH & RESCUE

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(Not printed at taxpayer expense)

## Letter To Potential Search & Rescue Volunteers

Members who join need to have a lifestyle where they are available to attend monthly trainings, monthly meetings and can be generally available to respond to SAR missions on a 24/7 basis. Members need to be able to pass a Sheriff's Office background check and need to be in good emotional and physical condition. Rescues can be very physically demanding and can lead to stressful situations. Joining a search and rescue team is a significant life style change and should be carefully considered. The California Office of Emergency Services (OES) has set new standards for SAR teams and every member must train and meet these standards.

New members receive First Responder medical and CPR training. Additional training and certification programs are available. Learning and training opportunities are non stop and include Map and Compass, Wilderness and Backcountry skills, Winter skills, Man Tracking, Low & High Angle Rope Rescue, Basic USAR, ATV operations, Incident Command System, Search Management, Winter Search Management, Swiftwater Rescue, Communications, Predator Abductions and Disaster Operations. Safety of our members, through training is the number one priority to the team.

We have our own Search Dogs and handlers. Our dogs are now certified through OES. If you are interested in training a dog, Our dog team trainers will work with you and your dog to become a top-notch dog team.

The Team has two state of art rescue vehicles, that members will be ask to help keep in tip top shape, by checking the operations of the vehicles and their equipment and keeping the supplies on board fully stocked and up to date.

Our Team is now a member of the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA). We will be training and testing to their standards. This means we can be called on to do mountain rescue in the higher mountainous areas of the state.

A typical wilderness search is for a hiker that is overdue, reported by a family member or friend. A typical urban search will involve a missing child or an Alzheimer patient walk away. A typical rescue would be a vehicle over the side of Highway 1 or a hiker with injures in the backcountry. Some other types of missions the team is called out on are mutual aid calls to surrounding counties, evidence searches for law enforcement, technical rescue missions, downed aircraft, floods, urban disasters and body recoveries. We are also asked to do static or action displays for community functions such as parades and fairs.

As you can see being a member of a SAR team is a huge commitment. I ask you now only to accept membership if you feel strongly that you can meet these commitments. I would like to thank you for your consideration and welcome any questions you may have.

***So That Others May Live***

Sincerely,

**Steve Hershey**  
**Commander of SAR Volunteers**

