USDA Forest Service and MCSO Say Be Careful Out There
MCSO Aviation Crucial for Public Safety

As the weather changes and people head outdoors, the MCSO Aviation Unit gears up for busy season of rescue flights. Mountain rescues, missing hikers, lost Salt River tubers and suspect searches are just a few of the calls the MCSO FOX 1 and FOX 2 helicopters have been part of since the New Year. Every year the Aviation division responds to over 300 rescues and more than 2000 calls for service. Our helicopters play a vital part in Sheriff’s Office day to day operations and contributing to public safety.

FOX 2 Rescues Hikers at Rivas Trailhead

Over the weekend “3/11/2017” Fox 2 assisted Lake Patrol in locating two lost hikers in the Rivas Trailhead area. Just before 6pm on Sunday, FOX 2 found both of them at the top of a cliff. Due to terrain, the helicopter was unable to land at that location. The pilots found a landing zone about a mile away and transported a deputy there. He used the FOX 2 spotlight as a guide and brought the two women back to the landing zone. The hikers were then transported in separate trips to Apache Lake Aid Station where awaiting deputies rendered aid to them.

Lake Patrol Saves A Life After ATV Accident

On 2/27/17 at 3 PM, Lake Patrol was dispatched to a quad collision in the Lower Sycamore Area of the Tonto National Forest. Lake Patrol Deputies responded to the scene with a MCSO Posse unit arriving a short time later. Deputy Alden Jackson, who is also a Lake Patrol
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) arrived on scene at 3:16 PM and immediately began assessing a male victim.

The victim had an open femur fracture with uncontrolled bleeding, a life threatening injury. Deputy Jackson immediately applied an Office issued tourniquet, controlling the victim’s bleeding. He continued to assess and treat the victim and within minutes Sgt. David Ayers, a certified paramedic arrived on scene.

Sgt. Ayers administered advanced medical treatment that stabilized the victim, who was later air evacuated to Scottsdale Osborn Hospital with further life threatening injuries. The victim’s life was saved thanks to the heroic actions taken by Deputy Jackson to immediately revert to his training to apply the tourniquet.

**USDA Forest Service Cautions All To Enjoy Spring Safely**

These are just some of the examples that MCSO deputies, Forest Service and other law enforcement agencies deal with on a regular basis at our trails and lakes. We are asking that when the public visits our amazing public lands to remember that Mother Nature is in charge. Go prepared with plenty of water, maps, the proper footwear and attire, and adhere to parks, lakes and forests rules. Stay on the designated hiking paths and if hiking alone, always let someone know where you are going. The weather is great, so let’s enjoy our parks, forests and lakes and return home safely, without having to have emergency responders come to your rescue.

“Make sure you are prepared for your hike into the Forest. Trails on the Tonto National Forest are often steep, rocky and may have very little shade,” said Neil Bosworth, Forest Supervisor, Tonto National Forest. “Bring plenty of water, and turn around before your water is half gone, to stay safe and have a happy memory of your trip.”
For general information about the Tonto National Forest please contact forest service at 602-225-5200 or visit their website at www.fs.usda.gov/Tonto.

**MCSO and Forest Service personnel speaking**

**MCSO Lake Patrol**

Sgt. Dave Ayers
Lake Patrol River Squad, 16 years with MCSO.
8 years at Lake Patrol, Paramedic for 7 years, MS program manager and instructor, Swat medic, qualified for helicopter operations, Member of the Arizona army National Guard assigned to medevac as a flight medic

Deputy Alden Jackson
Lake Patrol River squad, 16 Years with MCSO as a deputy and detention officer, 5 years in lake patrol, 3 Years as EMT, EMT instructor, bleeding control instructor and SWAT medic.

**MCSO Aviation**

Deputy Shari Garner
24 years with MCSO, 19 years in Aviation, DARE Instructor and Helicopter Tactical Flight Officer (TFO)

Deputy Richard Dickner
25 years with MCSO, senior pilot, 13 years in Aviation EMT, helicopter pilot, commercial pilot and scuba diver

**USDA Forest Service**

Carrie Templin Public Affairs Officer
Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Arizona, over 30 years of service for Bureau of Land Management and the Tonto National Forest in central Arizona, been on a Recreation Trail Crew, assisted with Recreation Site Design, working with the public both at the front desk, and in the field.