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*Richard C. Scholl*  
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**MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**- PRESS RELEASE -**

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

To: All Media Outlets

From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer

Date: July 11, 2011

Source: Mono County Sheriff Search and Rescue Team (SAR)

Subject: Stranded Hikers near Shadow Lake

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The Mono County Sheriff Search and Rescue (SAR) Team was called out the evening of Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, to aid two stranded hikers. Olesya Oleynik, age 25, and Sergey Belostotskiy, age 28, both of Sunnyvale, CA, took a day hike with their dogs with the intention of circumnavigating Shadow Lake. They found this to be impossible due to the high discharge in the outlet stream and climbed uphill into the Glady's Lake area. They hiked cross country along the outlet stream with the intention of reaching the San Joaquin River but encountered steep snowy terrain, were unable to continue due to cliffs and snow, and their jeans became soaked to the waist. They called for assistance via cell phone and the SAR team was dispatched at 8:30 p.m. Three field teams with technical equipment hiked in from Agnew Meadows. The subjects were located at 4:00 a.m. The teams bivouacked until daylight then climbed back up to Glady's Lake with Ms. Oleynik and Mr. Belostotskiy. The entire group hiked to the south toward Devil's Postpile during which time Ms. Oleynik sprained her ankle twice. The party encountered a difficult stream crossing at Minaret Creek above Minaret Falls where the bridge had washed out. Relief teams with swift water equipment, inflatable raft, and a wheeled litter for Ms. Oleynik were dispatched to assist. The stream was crossed with the raft and Ms. Oleynik was able to walk out the remaining 1.5 miles on her own without the litter. A total of nine teams were in the field.

*The law requires that arrest information be made available to the public. This publication may contain suspect information about individuals booked by the Mono County Sheriff's Department recently. Names of juveniles (under 18-years-old) are not public. Suspect information and ongoing investigation details are also withheld. Since most cases have yet to be adjudicated, all charges should be considered allegations. For questions/concerns regarding any information contained in this publication, contact Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger at (760) 932-7549.*