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*Richard C. Scholl*  
Sheriff/Coroner

**MONO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

*Ralph Obenberger*  
Undersheriff

To: All Media Outlets  
From: Jennifer Hansen, Public Information Officer  
Date: December 29, 2011  
RE: Paragliding Accident at the Mono Craters

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On the morning of Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at approximately 10:30, Mono County Sheriff's Office Dispatch received a call regarding a downed paraglider in the area of the Mono Craters.

Kern Barta, age 45, of Truckee, CA, was paragliding with a group of friends above the west aspect of the craters when he collided with the steep terrain. His friends were able to reach him and found that he had sustained back and leg injuries and had briefly lost consciousness due to the impact of the fall. Mono County Paramedics, Lee Vining Fire Department, a Mono County Sheriff's Deputy, and the Mono County Sheriff's Search and Rescue (SAR) Team responded to the area. Following a medical evaluation and stabilization, Mr. Barta was transported down the side of the crater via a technical low angle lowering. A Care Flight helicopter was on scene and transported Mr. Barta to Renown Medical Center in Reno for further treatment.

*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.*