

Mount Crested Butte Police Department

911 Gothic Road, Mt. Crested Butte, CO 81225

Offense / Incident Report

Report Date **02/10/2014 1319** Type of Incident **ZZ SEARCH AND RESCUE** Complaint No. **14-0042MTCB** Case Status **CLOSED**

Occurred on **02/10/2014 1300** to **02/10/2014 1808**

Incident Location

Street Address CR 12	City CRESTED BUTTE	State CO	Zip Code 81224		
Sector CRESTED BU	Precinct	Geo COUNTY	Ward KEBLER	Latitude	Primary Location KEBLER PASS
Neighborhood	Jurisdiction	Longitude	Secondary Location JUST NORTH OF SPLAIN'S GULCH		

Dispatch Information

Received Date / Time 02/10/2014 1319	Call Received Via DISPATCHER	Dispatched Date / Time 02/10/2014 1323	Call Dispatched As SEARCH & RESCUE	TeleType Operator
Arrived Date / Time 02/10/2014 1344	Departed Date / Time 02/10/2014 1747	Offense Category	TTY Ref.#	

Officers

ID	Name	Role	Primary	Arrived Scene	Departed Scene
0182	Jared Hooks	REPORTING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
0971	Nate Stepanek		<input type="checkbox"/>		

Offenses

Charge	Cause Number	Local Code	Jurisdiction	State Statute Type/Class	State Charge Code	Category
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ZZ SEARCH AND RESCUE

Offense / Incident Narrative

On 02/10/14, at about 13:20 hours, I was dispatched for a possible search and rescue. I called into Dispatch and was given the name of the reporting party, "SCOTT" and his phone number. I called SCOTT and was told that there had been an avalanche approximately 2.5 miles up Kebler Pass (Gunnison County Road 12) from the trailhead, and someone was buried under the snow. SCOTT explained that he had been out snowmobiling with a couple friends when the slide happened. He said that one guy was buried under the snow and that his friends along with 3 others are trying to locate the individual. SCOTT said avalanche beacons were turned on, but the probes were not long enough before he left to call 911. I told SCOTT to stay at the Kebler Pass Trailhead until I could get there. I had Dispatch page for Search and Rescue and responded to the Cache.

At the Cache I met with Search and rescue team leader, RICK EMS. I could see that EMS was speaking with someone on his cell phone as he arrived. EMS told me that the individual that was buried in the avalanche has been found and that he is deceased. EMS began to clear snow from the

Reporting Officer **0182 Jared Hooks**

Approving Officer (I) **0971 Nate Stepanek**

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Search and Rescue vehicles that are stored at the Cache and waited for more volunteers to arrive. I went to the Kebler Pass Trailhead and called Chief STEPANEK to inform him of the situation. At the Trailhead I was flagged down by JOHAN S. LOBERG who told me that his friend just died. LOBERG explained that he has three friends snowmobiling in the area, later identified as ANDREW BUSSE, IAN MCCULLOCH and JOSHUA LESNIAK

He said that he just received a call from BUSSE saying that LESNIAK had been killed in an avalanche near Splain's Gulch, so he (LOBERG) came up to the Trailhead. He also told me that his friends attempted CPR, but were unable to obtain a pulse. LOBERG was unable to get in touch with BUSSE again by cell phone.

A short time later Crested Butte Search and Rescue arrived at the Trailhead. The weather conditions unexpectedly changed for the worse as rescue equipment was being prepared to go into the field. The poor visibility due to low clouds and blowing snow made it extremely dangerous for rescue members to continue with the rescue efforts. Team leader EMS, Chief STEPANEK and I agreed that for the safety of the team members, rescue efforts needed to be temporarily postponed until the weather improved. Not long after that, Search and Rescue volunteers were given the go ahead to respond to the Splain's Gulch area of Kebler Pass where the victim was located. By this time, officers with the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management arrived to offer assistance.

At about 15:05 hours, Search and Rescue team members radioed that they had arrived on scene with the victim. The victim was brought to the Kebler Pass Trailhead by Search and Rescue team members, where he was identified by his Wisconsin driver's license as JOSHUA D LESNIAK. Gunnison County Coroner, FRANK VADER, took possession of LESNIAK's body. BUSSE and MCCULLOCH returned safely to the Trailhead and agreed to speak with me at the fire station in Crested Butte.

At the fire station, BUSSE and MCCULLOCH explained that LESNIAK was riding his snowmobile on the hill above Kebler Pass near the intersection of Splain's Gulch Rd. when he was caught in an avalanche estimated to be 600ft across. MCCULLOCH said that he was below LESNIAK at the time, and was also caught in the avalanche, but was able to dig his way out uninjured. BUSSE said that he was behind LESNIAK, because his snowmobile had gotten stuck, and did not get caught in the snow slide. The two men along with other bystanders used beacon locators to find where LESNIAK was buried and dug roughly 21ft straight down to find him. MCCULLOCH said that there were no obvious signs of trauma, but that LESNIAK was "pale and purple," and there was some blood coming from his nose. They said that they tried to feel for a pulse and attempted CPR, but could not

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resuscitate LESNIAK. Both MCCULLOCH and BUSSE drew diagrams of the incident (see case file). I also obtained GPS coordinates from Search and Rescue that placed LESNIAK at N 38°51'10.0" and W 107°04'4.7". I was told that Search and Rescue members took photographs, which I will add to the case file when they are received.

Nothing further at this time
Officer HOOKS

Reporting Party / Complainant

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix) BUSSE, ANDREW ROBERT	Race WHITE	Sex M	DOR	Age 34	Juvenile	SSN	Moniker
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Addresses

Type	Street Address	City	State	Zip Code	Country
		BERLIN	WI	54923	USA

Phone Numbers

Type	Phone	Ext/PIN	Email Addresses		
			Type	Email Address	
CELL					

Drivers License	Type	State WI	Expires	Restrictions	Marital Status	Resident Status 600	Ethnicity 185	Language
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Victim / Person

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix) LESNIAK, JOSHUA D	Race WHITE	Sex M	DOR	Age 26	Juvenile N	SSN	Moniker
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<input type="checkbox"/> Injured	Medical Care Sought	Treatment Location	Treatment Disposition	<input type="checkbox"/> Willing to Prosecute	Relation to Suspect
	Other Injury				

Addresses

Type	Street Address	City	State	Zip Code	Country
		BERLIN	WI	54923	USA

Phone Numbers

Type	Phone	Ext/PIN	Email Addresses		
			Type	Email Address	
CELL					

Drivers License	Type	State WI	Expires	Restrictions	Marital Status	Resident Status 602	Ethnicity 180	Language
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Physical Description

Height 602	Weight 180	Build	Skin Color	Complexion	Eyes GRN	Type of Eyewear
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Place of Birth

City	State
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Hair **BRO** Hair Length Hair Style Beard Mustache Side Burns Mannerisms Country

Victim / Person

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix) **MCCULLOCH, IAN JAMES** Race **WHITE** Sex **M** DOB Age **28** Juvenile SSN Moniker

Injured Medical Care Sought Treatment Location Treatment Disposition **Willing to Prosecute** Relation to Suspect
Other Injury

Addresses

Type Street Address City State Zip Code Country
OMRO WI 54963 USA

Phone Numbers

Type Phone Ext/PIN

Email Addresses

Type Email Address

Drivers License Type State **WI** Expires Restrictions Marital Status Resident Status **509** Ethnicity **230** Language

Physical Description

Height **509** Weight **203** Build Skin Color Complexion Eyes **BLU** Type of Eyewear
Hair **BLD** Hair Length Hair Style Beard Mustache Side Burns Mannerisms

Place of Birth

City State
Country

Witness

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix) **MCCULLOCH, IAN JAMES** Race **WHITE** Sex **M** DOB Age **28** Juvenile SSN Moniker

Addresses

Type Street Address City State Zip Code Country
OMRO WI 54963 USA

Phone Numbers

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Drivers License Type State Expires Restrictions Marital Status Resident Status Ethnicity Language
WI **509** **230**

Other Person

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix) Other Type Race Sex DOB Age Juvenile SSN Moniker
LOBERG, JOHAN S **WHITE** **M** **34**

Addresses

Type Street Address City State Zip Code Country
GREEN LAKE **WI** **54941-0284** **USA**

Phone Numbers

Type Phone Ext/PIN

Email Addresses

Type Email Address

Drivers License Type State Expires Restrictions Marital Status Resident Status Ethnicity Language
L1624377939004 **WI** **604** **200**

Other Person

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix) Other Type Race Sex DOB Age Juvenile SSN Moniker
EWALD, NANCY **F**

Phone Numbers

Type Phone Ext/PIN

Email Addresses

Type Email Address

Other Person

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix) Other Type Race Sex DOB Age Juvenile SSN Moniker
LESNIAK, DAVE **M**

Phone Numbers

Type Phone Ext/PIN

Email Addresses

Type Email Address

Other Person

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix) Other Type Race Sex DOB Age Juvenile SSN Moniker
CURRAN, MICHAEL R **WHITE** **M** **25** **N**

Addresses

Type Street Address City State Zip Code Country
GUNNISON **CO** **81230** **USA**

Phone Numbers

Type Phone Ext/PIN

Email Addresses

Type Email Address

Drivers License Type State Expires Restrictions Marital Status Resident Status Ethnicity Language
CO **03/08/2018** **510** **165**

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Vehicle

Veh. Year	Make	Model	Veh Style			VIN	
Tag CJR6229	Tag Year	Tag Month	Veh Color-Top	Veh Color-Bottom	Veh Type	Veh Value \$0.00	Veh Status

Vehicle Owner

Name	Phone	Ext.	EMail			
Street No.	Dir	Street/Rt	Apt/Suite	City	St.	Zip

Location Information

Stolen Impounded Towed Recovered Recovered Non-Locally

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