



## BOROUGH OF PEAPACK AND GLADSTONE POLICE DEPARTMENT

1 School Street • Post Office Box 218 • Peapack, NJ 07977-0218  
Phone: 908-234-0626 • Fax: 908-234-9683

Gregory J. Skinner  
CHIEF OF POLICE

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Peapack & Gladstone Police Chief Gregory Skinner reports that on Friday 9/2/16 at 5:46 pm the Police Department responded to 9 Forest View Drive for the report of a missing adult male. When officers arrived they spoke to the parents of the individual who said after a verbal disagreement their son ran off up their driveway and disappeared. They did not know his direction of travel.

The Police immediately requested the Morris County Sheriff's Office K-9 unit to respond with a tracking dog. Also requested was the Borough's Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Office of Emergency Management, Public Works Department and the Somerset County Office of Emergency Management's Search and Rescue Team.

A search of the surrounding area was performed by members of the Somerset County Search and Rescue Team who were assisted by the Somerset County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team as well as the Morris County K-9. The search continued throughout the night.

Twice during the evening police helicopters from the New Jersey State Police Aviation Bureau and the New York City Police Aviation Unit were used to search the area with high power spot lights and thermal imaging cameras respectively. At 3:20 am on Saturday morning the search was suspended in part due to the treacherous terrain and darkness which hindered searchers who were on foot.

On Saturday at 8 am the search was resumed with assistance from NJ Search and Rescue. Searchers continued their search of the area throughout the day using personnel on foot as well as K-9 search teams. At 1:00 pm the father of the missing person reported to police his son had returned home. Police responded to the residence and found him to be uninjured. As a precaution he was eventually transported him to Robert Wood Johnson Somerset Hospital for evaluation. He said he has spent the night in a field in the area of Mendham Road in Gladstone.

The law enforcement agencies that provided assistance were; Chester Township Police Department, Far Hills Police Department, Mendham Township Police Department, Somerset County Prosecutor's Office, Somerset County Sheriff's Office, Morris County Sheriff's Office K-9, Passaic County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Team, Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office K-9, New Jersey State Park Police K-9, and the New Jersey Transit Police and the NJ State Police Multi-Discipline Special Response Team.

The Borough's Fire Department and First Aid Squad, Office of Emergency Management and Department of Public Works provided support during the event. The Somerset County



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Office of Emergency Management along with their Search and Rescue Team and Emergency Medical Services Bureau provided the search personnel for the first night. On scene communications were provided by the Somerset County Communications Division Mobile Command Unit.

The volunteer search and rescue teams who provided personnel and K-9 teams were; NJ Search and Rescue, Search and Rescue Teams of Warren County, Eagle Valley, Mid-Atlantic Regional Search and Rescue, Long Island K-9, Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue K-9 Unit, West Jersey K-9 and the New Jersey Search and Recovery K-9 Team.

The Salvation Army and the American Red Cross provided catering services for the over 50 personnel were involved each day for this search. The responders where both career and volunteer responders who worked seamlessly together.

This incident is under investigation by the Peapack & Gladstone Police Department and it is anticipated that no charges will be filed. If anyone has any information regarding this case please contact the Police Department at 908-234-0626.