



Lewiston Police Department Press Release

Press Release #: 15-21
Case #: 15-L5160
Date: April 16, 2015

Bryden Canyon Crash Follow-Up

On April 15, 2015 Lewiston Police Officers responded to a one vehicle collision where it was reported that GMC Yukon was hanging over a cliff above Bryden Canyon road. When officers arrived they discovered that a 2000 GMC Yukon had driven off of Mayfair Drive, through a yard and over shrubs and trees coming to rest on the edge of a cliff. The vehicle was being supported by a chain link fence which stopped it from falling to the roadway below. By the time the first officers had arrived a passing citizen had pulled the driver, 23 year old Mathew Sitko from the vehicle. The citizen was not identified at the time due to the chaos of the scene. Sitko was transported to St. Josephs Regional Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries received in the accident.

On April 16, 2015, after pictures of the crash and rescue appeared in the Lewiston Morning Tribune, the citizen was identified as 29 year old Jason Warnock of Lewiston. When contacted Warnock told officers that he had observed debris in the roadway while travelling up Bryden Canyon road then noticed the vehicle hanging precariously above the cliff face. Warnock said he ran up to the pedestrian foot bridge, climbed up above the cliff face then traversed the embankment to access the vehicle. Warnock said he attempted to break the passenger window with this Leatherman tool but was unable to. At that time he was able to calm Sitko enough to have him roll down the window so he could pull him out of the window to safety. Warnock said he was working at the time and was not able to remain at the scene after officers arrived. He said he was also trying to avoid attention.

The Lewiston Police Department would like to thank Jason Warnock for his quick and decisive actions in helping Mr. Sitko and preventing the situation from worsening.

Roger W. Lanier

Name

Interim Chief

Rank

Administration

Section