

# INTEROFFICE MEMO



**DATE** July 20, 2004  
**FROM** **SCOTT MESA**, Lieutenant  
Public Affairs Division  
**TO** **ALL STATIONS AND DIVISIONS**

**PHONE** 387-3700

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**SUBJECT ON-DUTY DEATHS OF SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM MEMBERS**

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On July 17, 2004, at approximately 5 a.m., five members of the San Geronio Search and Rescue (SAR) team were enroute to assist in a search and rescue operation. While responding, they were involved in a major traffic collision on State Route 62.

- As a result of the collision, Mr. Scott Johnston, age 30, SAR Tech. II, team member for five years, was pronounced dead at the scene.
- Philip Calvert, age 58, SAR Tech. II, team member for 12 years, sustained major injuries and subsequently died of those injuries on 7-20-04 at approximately 4 a.m.
- Three additional SAR members were in the vehicle and they received minor to moderate injuries. Those members are:
  - Bob Blanck, age 32, SAR Tech. II, team member for five years
  - Shane Elliott, age 34, SAR Tech. II, team member for one year.
  - Dave Atchley, age 45, SAR Tech. II, team member for ten years.

Flags are to be flown at half-staff and black mourning bands are authorized for wear until midnight of Philip Calvert's funeral.

Funeral arrangements will be announced as the information becomes available. For further questions or information please contact the Sheriff's Public Affairs Division at 387-3700.

SM/DC:sdh