

PRESS RELEASE

JOHN MCMAHON, SHERIFF-CORONER

DATE/TIME Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 8:59 p.m.
INCIDENT: Search for Murder Suspect/Officer Involved Shooting
LOCATION: Big Bear Valley
SUSPECT: Christopher Jordan Dorner, 33 years of age – 6'0", 270 lbs, blk hair, brn eyes

SUMMARY:

UPDATE: Tuesday, February 23, 2013 – 11:00 p.m.

Investigators have located charred human remains within the debris of the burned out cabin. Identification will be attempted through forensic means.

UPDATE: On Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 12:22 p.m, deputies working the Big Bear area search for Christopher Dorner responded to the 1200 block of Club View Dr. for a reported stolen vehicle. The reporting party said the suspect took their vehicle and described the suspect as looking very similar to Dorner. Deputies immediately began a search on the ground and from the air for the vehicle. The vehicle was located at Hwy 38 and Glass Rd.

The suspect fled into the forest and barricaded himself inside a cabin. A short time later there was an exchange of gunfire between law enforcement and the suspect. Two San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputies were injured during the gunfire and taken to the Loma Linda Hospital. At approximately 2:24 p.m., one of the deputies was pronounced deceased. The deputy wounded in today's incident has undergone surgery and medical personnel are optimistic as to his recovery. However, it is believed several additional surgeries will be required.

A fire erupted in the cabin in which the suspect had barricaded himself. The cabin remains unsafe for investigators to enter and it is unknown when the structure will be deemed safe. It is believed the suspect is inside the cabin. Homicide investigators have responded and are conducting an investigation.

A press conference is scheduled for tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. at Sheriff's Headquarters located at 655 E. Third Street in San Bernardino.

UPDATE: Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 8:15 a.m.

The search for Christopher Dorner continues this morning in the Big Bear Valley. Thirty law enforcement personnel are continuing to search for Christopher Dorner and provide additional patrol to the residents of the Big Bear Valley. They are continuing to search vacation homes and Government lease cabins that are in an even more remote area. Aerial support is readily available if needed. There have been no sightings of Dorner in the Big Bear area.

"The search for Christopher Dorner will continue until he has been apprehended or it has been determined that he is no longer on the mountain," stated Sheriff John McMahon.

UPDATE: Monday, February 11, 2013 5:30 p.m.

The search for Christopher Dorner will continue throughout the night. Thirty law enforcement personnel are continuing to search for Christopher Dorner and provide additional patrol to the residents of the Big Bear Valley. They are continuing to search vacation homes and Government lease cabins that are in an even more remote area. Aerial support is readily available if needed. There have been no sightings of Dorner in the Big Bear area.

The search will continue Tuesday morning with the same amount of personnel as stated above.

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"The search for Christopher Dorner will continue until he has been apprehended or it has been determined that he is no longer on the mountain," stated Sheriff John McMahon.

UPDATE: Monday, February 11, 2013 7:50 a.m.

The search continues this morning for Christopher Dorner. Thirty law enforcement personnel are continuing to search for Christopher Dorner and provide additional patrol to the residents of the Big Bear Valley. They are continuing to search vacation homes and Government lease cabins that are in an even more remote area. Aerial support is readily available if needed. There have been no sightings of Dorner in the Big Bear area.

UPDATE – Sunday, February 10, 2013 9:00 a.m.

The search continues to locate Christopher Dorner in the Big Bear area with approximately 25 officers on the ground and a helicopter providing aerial support. As the number of cabins, rentals and unoccupied/vacation homes diminishes, the amount of personnel and resources needed has been scaled back accordingly. Although there have been no reported sightings and officers have found no new evidence that points to a location in the Big Bear area, the Sheriff's Department remains committed to the public's safety.

UPDATE – Saturday, February 09, 2013 1:30 p.m.

The search continued this morning at 7:00 a.m. in the Big Bear area. There are approximately 50 law enforcement officers searching the forest area and doing additional door to door checks. There are several additional patrol units throughout the Big Bear Lake community. Two helicopters are assisting in the search efforts.

The search is expected to continue until nightfall and resume again in the morning, if necessary.

There is no additional information available and updates will be released as new information is received.

UPDATE – Friday, February 8, 2013, 5:07 p.m.

The ground search will be suspended overnight. Deputies who have been participating in the ground search will be coming off of the mountain following sundown. In addition to the patrol deputies assigned to the Big Bear Station there will be additional 12 – two man units. Citizens are urged to immediately call 911 if they see anything suspicious. Residents are advised to open their doors only to those they know, or uniformed law enforcement officers.

Due to the weather, the aerial search will remain grounded throughout the night

The ground search will resume Saturday morning at approximately 7:00 a.m. Search personnel will again utilize the snow cat and the armored personnel carrier to transport them into mountain areas where they will continue searching the forest.

Media note There will not be a Sheriff's PIO at the command post throughout the night. If there is any change in the search for Christopher Dorner the media will be advised by the Sheriff's Department Public Affairs Division and a PIO will respond to the command post if needed.

UPDATE – Friday, February 8, 2013, at 1:0 p.m.

The search continues in the Big Bear Valley for suspect, Christopher Dorner. Law Enforcement personnel from San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles Police Department, Riverside Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, FBI, Irvine Police Department, Orange County Sheriff's Department, Pomona Police Department, US Forest Service and CalFire are continuing to search the forest area consisting of 8 square miles in an effort to find Dorner. Search personnel are utilizing a Snowcat and an armored personnel carrier equipped with snow chains to transport them into the mountain areas where they are searching approximately 200 vacant cabins. Search dogs continue to be utilized today; the dogs are trained and capable of searching in the snow. The aerial search has been suspended due to the weather conditions.

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Additional deputies are continuing to patrol the Big Bear Valley and citizens are urged to immediately call 911 if they see anything suspicious. Residents are advised to open their doors only to those they know, or uniformed law enforcement officers.

The suspect vehicle and any evidence located inside the vehicle will be turned over to the Irvine Police Department.

Sheriff John McMahon is committed to the safety of the citizens in the Big Bear Valley Community and will keep additional deputies patrolling the streets throughout the search to ensure their safety. Sheriff McMahon stated "the search will continue until the suspect has been apprehended or it has been determined that he is no longer on the mountain."

Media Note A press briefing is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., this will be the final briefing of the day***

UPDATE – Thursday, February 7, 2013, at 9:00 p.m.,

An extensive search for the suspect, Christopher Dorner, will continue throughout the night. Law Enforcement personnel from San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles Police Department, Riverside Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, FBI, Irvine Police Department, Orange County Sheriff's Department, Pomona Police Department, US Forest Service and CalFire will continue to search the forest area and go door-to-door in an effort to find Dorner. If the weather changes drastically during the night and hampers the search, then multiple two man units will be patrolling the area.

Helicopters from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will continue to assist ground searchers by conducting aerial support.

Additional deputies are continuing to patrol the Big Bear Valley and citizens are urged to immediately call 911 if they see anything suspicious. Residents are advised to open their doors only to those they know, or uniformed law enforcement officers.

Media note There will not be a Sheriff's PIO at the command post throughout the night. If there is any change in the search for Christopher Dorner the media will be advised by the Sheriff's Department Public Affairs Division and a PIO will respond to the command post if needed. Sheriff McMahon is expected to hold a news briefing Friday morning at 9:00 at the same location.

On Thursday, February 7, 2013, at approximately 8:35 a.m., Deputies from the Big Bear Station responded to the report of a burned out vehicle in the area of Forest Road 2N10 and Club View in Big Bear Lake. At approximately 2:30 p.m., deputies were able to confirm the vehicle belonged to Christopher Dorner.

An extensive search for the suspect continues in the communities of the Big Bear Valley. Deputies along with State and Federal Agents will be searching the forest area surrounding Bear Mountain Ski Resort, and a door to door search of the surrounding homes for the suspect. Sheriff's Aviation is assisting by conducting an aerial search of the area.

Deputies are also positioned on Hwy 18 in Lucerne Valley, Hwy 330 in Highland and Hwy 18 in Yucaipa monitoring traffic that is travelling up and down the mountain. Additional personnel from throughout the Sheriff's Department have been deployed to the mountain communities. Sheriff John McMahon stated he will continue vigilant patrol of the area until the suspect is located or it is determined he is no longer in the Big Bear Valley.

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department would like to warn area residents that Christopher Dorner is considered armed and dangerous. Residents are encouraged to report any suspicious activity. If you have information regarding his whereabouts please immediately call 911.

Refer: Public Affairs Division

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Phone No.: [REDACTED]

JOHN MCMAHON, Sheriff-Coroner
San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner Department