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Press Release

For Immediate Release

Hagerman Peak Recovery

Pitkin County, Colorado – August 27, 2012 – On August 25th, 2012, at about 2:50 in the afternoon, the Pitkin County Sheriff's Office received a call of a rock slide near Hagerman Peak, in which it was reported that two people were injured. Rob Jansen, 24 years old, from New Canaan, Connecticut, passed away from injuries sustained in the slide. Rescuers were unable to reach Jansen on August 25, 2012, because of the timing of another search and rescue incident near South Maroon, in Pitkin County. Based on the location of Jansen, Gunnison County Sheriff's Office requested Mountain Rescue Aspen (MRA) to perform the technical recovery of the body.

On August 27, 2012, at approximately 8:51 in the morning, a Flight for Life helicopter out of Summit County picked up two members of Mountain Rescue Aspen, to place them back in the vicinity of Hagerman Peak. The MRA team reached Jansen at approximately 11:00 in the morning.

At approximately 11:40 am, a National Guard helicopter from HAATS (High-Altitude ARNG Aviation Training Site) out of Eagle air-lifted Jansen to the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport. HAATS returned to the Hagerman Peak area to pick up the MRA team.

All rescue members were out of the field as of 12:50 in the afternoon.

Hagerman Peak is located about eleven nautical miles from the City of Aspen, and is part of the Elk Mountain Range. Attached is the picture of the incident area to visually illustrate the technical conditions of the recovery.

Mountain Rescue Aspen, the Pitkin County Sheriff's Office and the Gunnison County Sheriff's Office would like to thank Flight for Life and HAATS for making this recovery possible and safe. Without their assistance, our rescuers would have been more at risk during this operation.

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Our Mission: Guided by constitutional, community, and professional standards, the mission of the Pitkin County Sheriff's Office is to respect human dignity and provide the highest level of service to all. We are committed to the preservation of a peaceful, safe, and healthy environment in the spirit of openness, fairness and tolerance.