



PRESS RELEASE

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Alaska Air Guardsmen rescue fallen hiker near Pioneer Peak

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — Alaska Air Guardsmen with the 176th Wing's 210th, 211th and 212th Rescue Squadrons rescued one individual in the vicinity of Pioneer Peak late last night.

According to the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center, the fallen hiker had a colleague with her, but was unable to walk out even with partner assistance due to her injuries.

At the request of the Alaska State Troopers, Air National Guard assets were deployed for the mission, including an HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter from the 210th Rescue Squadron and an HC-130 King aircraft from the 211th Rescue Squadron. A two-man Guardian Angel team was onboard the HH-60.

212th Rescue Squadron Guardian Angel teams are comprised of a minimum of two pararescuemen and combat rescue officers. These elite warriors are experts in all aspects of the personnel recovery mission, and their skill sets include specialized training in land and water rescue, as well as advanced medical care.

Though the Alaska Air Guard rescue squadrons train primarily to their DoD mission involving combat scenarios, their unique skills make them a fitting resource to aid citizens of Alaska.

"It was a straight forward mission assist, and the crews did a phenomenal job," said Maj. John Romspert, the officer in charge at the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center

The distressed individual was hoisted from the steep terrain, delivered and released to the Mat-Su Regional Medical Center for medical evaluation.

For this mission, the 210th, 211th and 212th Rescue Squadrons were awarded with one save.

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Editors and Reporters:

For FILE photos:

<http://dvidshub.net/r/gavhbw>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/alaskanationalguard/sets/72157647250535441/>

For FILE video:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/300963/alaska-national-guard-rescue#.U1V6vbHTmzk>

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