

**Maj. Gen. Torrence Saxe**

*Commissioner & Adjutant General*

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**Alaska National Guard**

*Department of Military  
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Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska

**STATE OF ALASKA**

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By David Bedard

176th Wing Public Affairs

**Alaska Airmen rescue hiker at Wolverine Peak**

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — Responding to a request for assistance from the Alaska State Troopers, the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing rescued a hiker at Wolverine Peak east of Anchorage May 2.

Airmen with the Alaska Air National Guard's 210th and 212th rescue squadrons saved a hiker and her dog who were in distress on the side of the peak.

The hiker contacted the Troopers with a cell phone. Both AST and the Alaska Mountain Rescue Group determined the rescue required a hoist extraction.

An HH-60G Pave Hawk launched from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson to respond.

Aboard the aircraft were two pararescuemen; highly trained airmen, specialized in the skills of technical rescue and evacuation of isolated personnel in any environment, during both civil and combat search and rescue.

According to Alaska Air National Guard Maj. Duane Griffith, Alaska Rescue Coordination Center Assistant Director, the crews performed a hoist recovery with a basket due to the steep slope and to accommodate the survivor and her dog. Once aboard, the hiker was evaluated and determined as uninjured.

The hiker was released to the Anchorage Police Department in the Flattop parking lot.

Griffith highlighted the importance of inter-agency cooperation in carrying out rescue operations throughout the state.

"This rescue operation illustrates the continued synergistic relationships shared amongst the Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Mountain Rescue Group and the Rescue Coordination Center" he said. "We're one team in this fight."

For this mission, the 210th and 212th rescue squadrons, and the AKRCC were awarded one save.

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