



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Weekend Accidents Require Technical Rescues**

A serious accident on Mountain Road Sunday morning (8/30) received a response from six Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue units, the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, and LifeFlight.

Ironically, the accident was discovered shortly after 7 am by a TVF&R firefighter who was enroute home from a 24-hour shift at the Mountain Road fire station, located a short distance away. The firefighter called 9-1-1 to report that a sedan had left the road in the vicinity of 22451 Mountain Road and crashed head-on into a tree, then called the station to get the on-duty crew enroute as quickly as possible.

The male operator and sole occupant of the vehicle was severely pinned in the wreckage of the car and was treated for injuries while extrication took place. Additional units were called to the scene, including TVF&R's Technical Rescue Team, a unit trained and equipped for difficult and complex extrications. It took approximately 50 minutes to remove the driver from the vehicle, at which point he was moved to a field adjacent to the accident scene and loaded into a LifeFlight helicopter for transport to OHSU.

Clackamas County Sheriff's deputies responded to the scene and closed Mountain Road to traffic as the rescue operation took place and they conducted their investigation.

It should be noted that this morning's incident was the third of the weekend in which firefighters responded to situations where vehicles had left the road in the Clackamas County area known as Petes Mountain.

Saturday morning, TVF&R crews assisted the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office with a previously-reported fatality in which a vehicle was found at the bottom of a ravine near the intersection of Petes Mountain and Schaeffer Roads.

At 8:41 Saturday night, TVF&R crews responded to an accident scene on Johnson Road near Tualatin Loop, where a vehicle had rolled down a 45-foot embankment. The vehicle's operator and sole occupant was carried up to the road using a basket stretcher and rope haul system, then transported by American Medical Response ambulance to OHSU with what were believed to be non-life-threatening injuries.

While all three of these incidents are being investigated by the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, and specific causes of each crash have yet to be determined, officials urge motorists to drive within posted speeds and use caution on rural roads around the metro area.



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