

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

June 1, 2009

High Falls Rescue

Chief Deputy Mike Edmondson states as follows:

On Saturday, May 30, at approximately 9:30 p.m., the Sheriff's Office received a report that two rafters were missing. The two men, Ehren and Jason McClure, 28 and 29 years old respectively, had put in their raft at the bridge near Chigger Hill on Highway 227 at approximately 4:00 p.m. When they had not returned some five hours later, their family contacted authorities. Sheriff's Office Deputies, Geraldine Police Department Officers, and the Geraldine Rescue Squad responded to the area.

Geraldine Rescue Squad brought their ATVs out to the area, and their rescuers were able to track down into the woods. They called for the rafters, heard them call back, and followed the sound down to the creek area. Apparently the raft had burst, and the McClures had climbed onto rocks to wait until daylight. Rescue squad members were able to bring the two men back out of the wooded area to safety in between the Chigger Hill bridge and High Falls. Both were found to be in good condition .

Sheriff Harris said, "The Geraldine Rescue Squad really did an outstanding job with this rescue – if they had not been there, there's no telling how long it would have taken us to locate these guys. Their equipment and expertise got those two to safety relatively quickly. I'm really proud that we have such a good group of rescue responders in our area."

