



Orange County Fire Authority
Public Affairs
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NEWS RELEASE

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Orange County Lifeguards Continue to Search for Missing Teenager

Laguna Beach, CA – Shortly after 1:30 PM yesterday, February 8, 2015, OC Lifeguards responded to a 911 call for a missing swimmer in the rocks south of Thousand Steps Beach in South Laguna. OC Lifeguards with the assistance of Laguna Beach Lifeguards, Laguna Beach Fire and Police, Orange County Fire Authority, Orange County Sheriff's Harbor Patrol and helicopters from Orange County Fire Authority, Orange County Sheriff's Department and the US Coast Guard, performed a land, air and water-based search for the missing swimmer. Due to extremely hazardous surf conditions, the search was limited to lifeguards on foot in the rocky area, vessels off the shoreline and helicopters overhead. Rescue Divers could not be safely deployed.

Search efforts resumed at 7 AM this morning, February 9, 2015. At this time, we have not recovered anyone. The search is now considered a recovery operation. High surf of 5-8 feet continues to impact the coastline making for difficult and dangerous search operations. OC Lifeguards will continue to actively search the rocky area until sundown today.

Orange County Lifeguards would like to remind anyone coming to the beach to always check with the lifeguard before approaching the water's edge and to stay off rocky outcroppings and tide pool areas during high surf. More information and safety tips can be found at www.OCLG.org and at www.usla.org.

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