



Missing Person Found Deceased

The Menifee Police Department (MPD) would like to share the following information regarding the At Risk Missing Person/Silver Alert for Karen Winteringham who was found deceased. MPD shares its thanks to the community for the efforts to locate Mrs. Winteringham and sends our deepest condolences to the family.

August 4, 2021 - At about 7:00 PM, The Menifee Police Department responded to a call for service regarding a missing person in the 26000 block of Mehaffey Street. The missing person was identified as 65 year old Karen Winteringham. Family members advised officers Mrs. Winteringham was last seen around 9:00 AM that morning and informed officers she did not have her cell phone. Mrs. Winteringham was known to officers from prior missing person reports.

Officers conducted an extensive search of the area for Mrs. Winteringham, to include hospitals, businesses, neighborhood canvas, and checking prior locations where she was known to frequent. Officers were unable to determine any potential locations where she may have walked to or went. Officers notified all surrounding agencies and continued to search for Mrs. Winteringham throughout the night.

August 5, 2021 - At about 8:30 AM, Menifee Police Detectives assumed the missing persons investigation. Detectives and officers continued to search by passing out fliers to the community, businesses, Riverside Transit Agency, hospitals, motels, and regional partners. Detectives requested assistance from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department helicopter and bloodhounds in the search, which did not lead to any potential location of Mrs. Winteringham.

A Silver Alert was activated by the California Highway Patrol at about 2:00 PM. Detectives and





Officers continued to follow-up on leads provided by the community; however, none of tips led to the location of Mrs. Winteringham. Continued searches were conducted within the city and surrounding areas. Additional investigative follow-up by Detectives were ongoing.

August 24, 2021 - At about 3:40 PM, The Riverside County Sheriff's Department (RSO) responded to a call for service related to unidentified human remains in an undeveloped rural area of the City of Perris. Sheriff's Deputies located the remains and contained the scene. Further investigation led to the belief that the remains may be Mrs. Winteringham. A coordinated effort was initiated for an exhaustive search of the area between RSO, search and rescue volunteers, and MPD Detectives. The area was searched by foot and air, and the search is ongoing.

The Riverside County Coroner's Office has identified the recovered remains as that of Karen Winteringham. At this time in the investigation, Detectives do not believe Mrs. Winteringham's passing was criminal in nature and think it's possible she succumbed to a medical emergency or non-criminal trauma.

Detectives continue to investigate and will work hard to determine the cause of death. We ask anyone with information to contact the Menifee Police Department Investigations Division at (951) 723-1500 or the anonymous tip line at (951) 723-1600.

