



News Release

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"Creating a Safer Community
Together."

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Sheriff's Office Rescues Fort Lewis Paratrooper From a Tree

At approximately 9:30 PM last night the Thurston County Sheriff's Office Dive Rescue team was asked to conduct a rope rescue on Ft. Lewis property off of Rainier Rd. SE, North of Military Rd. SE.

A Ft. Lewis paratrooper had drifted into a heavily timbered area during a training jump. The soldier landed and became stuck approximately 110 feet off the ground in a Douglas Fir tree.

Sgt. Paul Johnson of the Olympia Police Department, an experienced tree climber, also responded to assist with the rescue. Sgt. Johnson climbed the tree cutting limbs away until he reached the soldier.

The Soldier was fitted with a harness and lowered to the ground by members of the Dive Rescue team. There were no serious injuries reported.