

Case Report

MISLE Case Id: 1102403 **Opened Date:** 13OCT2017 17:13Z **Scheduled End Date:**

Status: Closed - Agency Action Complete

Title: SAR - Diver Missing - Niagara River - Buffalo NY

Incident Type/Subtype: Search and Rescue / Diving Accident

SMC/IC: Sector Buffalo

Activities:

MISLE Activity Id: 6287134 **Title/Description:** Search and Rescue Diving Accident/ /130500ZOct17

Enf Activity Id:

Incident Summary: Update 06: Recovery efforts were successful. The missing diver was found on the bottom of the upper Niagara river in the vicinity of Strawberry Island. The diver was positively identified by next of kin. All assets RTB and ICP standing down. Case closed.

Update 05: Dive and SONAR operations continue. The focus for the 17 October operational period will be an area from the International Railroad Bridge north to the North Grand Island Bridge in the east channel and the Chippewa Channel on the west side of Grand Island. There are a total of 6 SONAR equipped vessels that will be operating in the area. 3 will work south to north and 3 will work north to south. Station Buffalo is on scene in the RB-M conducting shoreline searches in support of the operation. CWO [REDACTED] from the MSRT/LANT Dive Locker is on scene at the ICP as an advisor and safety representative. LT [REDACTED], Sector Buffalo IMD Chief, is on scene at the ICP as the USCG LNO. The challenges the divers and sonar teams face today is the strong and variable current, calculated to be anywhere from 8 to 15 knots and reduced visibility. A SONAR equipped vessels are going to execute a sonar search of the area between Thompson Road and Canada Chris

UPDATE 3: Niagara Regional Police informed Sector Buffalo of a report from a passing motorist on the Niagara Parkway. The motorist reported a "Big black wetsuit". The R/S did not remain O/S. Police dispatch sent an officer to the reported location of the object (30 feet off the Ontario shoreline) but the officer was not able to locate the object.

NRP thought the object may be related to the missing BPD diver, and launched two boats from Fort Erie Fire and requested Erie County Air One. Air One was not able to fly due to high winds. SBCC launched Station Buffalo RB-M and requested assistance from Grand Island Fire Department, who was able to launch 2 boats. The area was searched for over 2 hours. The RB-M was released due to high crew hours, Fort Erie Fire boats departed and Grand Island Fire boats were released due to worsening weather. The object was never located.

All information was passed to D9, SMC, the sector liaison and Sector Commander. Buffalo PD was notified, as was JRCC Trenton and Western NY ALERT Region 1 Coordinator. Due to poor weather in the Buffalo area, continued searching at night would not be prudent, safe, or effective.

UPDATE 2/FINAL: Buffalo P.D. has called off recovery operations for the night and released all assets. The MH65 and RB-M completed search with NEGRES and are RTB. Case closed for text purposes.

Update 1: All agencies involved completed searches with NEGRES. SMC (Buffalo P.D.) confirmed they granted ACTSUS. Recovery efforts continue. MH-65 is currently on scene flying overhead for recovery efforts and the RB-M is also assisting with recovery efforts. Buffalo P.D. plans to continue efforts until around 2100 lcl and suspend recovery efforts for the night.

INCIDENT TYPE: INITIAL - SAR
DATE/TIME INCIDENT: 131705Z OCT 17
VESSEL NAME: N/A
SMC: BUFFALO P.D.
GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: UPPER NIAGARA RIVER - BUFFALO, NY
MISLE: 1102403

SITUATION: Sector Buffalo received a report of a Buffalo Police Diver trapped underwater IVO Squaw Island Upper Niagara river.

ACTION: Sector Buffalo did not issue a UMIB due to concern for mariner and diver safety in the area. Sector launched a 45' RB-M from Station Buffalo and requested the launch of an MH-65 from Air Station Detroit. Buffalo P.D. assumed SMC due to being the first on scene and directing multiple OGA's. The dive team believed the tether line of the missing diver was hung up on an object underwater and asked the RB-M to move the line in an attempt to free it. Upon moving the tether line it was discovered that the line was cut. The missing diver's secondary oxygen tank and mouth piece resurfaced IVO where the tether line entered the water. There are currently at least 10 agencies on scene including Buffalo P.D., Buffalo F.D., Tonawanda marine unit, Hamburg water rescue, Erie County marine, Fort Erie marine unit, CBP marine unit, CBP helo's, Erie County Air 1, State Police helo, as well as multiple dive teams. An ICP has been stood up on Unity Island and Station Buffalo's OIC has arrived on scene. The RB-M has paramedics and EMTs on board ready to respond if the missing diver is located. The MH-65 arrived at Niagara international airport and is awaiting tasking from SMC (Buffalo P.D.).

FUTURE PLANS: Search efforts will continue with the multiple assets on scene.

MISLE Attachments: 1102403 SAP.doc
PSDA 1102403.pdf
LOG 02 13OCT17.doc
CGR6566 14OCT17.pdf
LOG 01 14OCT17.doc
OU NOTES 1102403.pdf
UMIB WETSUIT 16OCT17.pdf
SMIB COTP BU.pdf
LOG 02 17OCT17.doc

MISLE Activity Id: 6287383

Title/Description: THE FOOT OF FERRY BUFFALO PD DIVER

Enf Activity Id:

Incident Summary:

MISLE Attachments:

MISLE Activity Id: 6287671 Enf Activity Id: Incident Summary: MISLE Attachments:	Title/Description: UPPER NIAGARA RIVER MISSING DIVER
MISLE Activity Id: 6287682 Enf Activity Id: Incident Summary: MISLE Attachments:	Title/Description: UPPER NIAGARA RIVER MISSING DIVER
MISLE Activity Id: 6287912 Enf Activity Id: Incident Summary: MISLE Attachments:	Title/Description: UPPER NIAGARA RIVER MISSING DIVER
MISLE Activity Id: 6288158 Enf Activity Id: Incident Summary: MISLE Attachments:	Title/Description: UPPER NIAGARA RIVER POSSIBLE WET SUIT SIGHTING
MISLE Activity Id: 6288837 Enf Activity Id: Incident Summary: MISLE Attachments:	Title/Description: SAR - Diver Missing - Niagara River - Buffalo NY

FM: SECTOR BUFFALO

TO:

INFO:

BT

UNCLAS //N16130//

SUBJ: SEARCH AND RESCUE/DIVING ACCIDENT/LAT: 42°54.1 N LONG: 078°54.4 W

PERIOD: 130000Z OCT 17 - 022359Z APR 18

1. SITUATION.

A. CURRENT STATUS: CLOSED - AGENCY ACTION COMPLETE

B. NOTIFICATION: 13 OCT 2017 BUFFALO 911, 911 OR OTHER EMERGENCY NUMBER

C. NARRATIVE: UPDATE 06: RECOVERY EFFORTS WERE SUCCESSFUL. THE MISSING DIVER WAS FOUND ON THE BOTTOM OF THE UPPER NIAGARA RIVER IN THE VICINITY OF STRAWBERRY ISLAND. THE DIVER WAS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED BY NEXT OF KIN. ALL ASSETS RTB AND ICP STANDING DOWN. CASE CLOSED.

UPDATE 05: DIVE AND SONAR OPERATIONS CONTINUE. THE FOCUS FOR THE 17 OCTOBER OPERATIONAL PERIOD WILL BE AN AREA FROM THE INTERNATIONAL RAILROAD BRIDGE NORTH TO THE NORTH GRAND ISLAND BRIDGE IN THE EAST CHANNEL AND THE CHIPPEWA CHANNEL ON THE WEST SIDE OF GRAND ISLAND. THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 6 SONAR EQUIPPED VESSELS THAT WILL BE OPERATING IN THE AREA. 3 WILL WORK SOUTH TO

NORTH AND 3 WILL WORK NORTH TO SOUTH. STATION BUFFALO IS ON SCENE IN THE RB-M CONDUCTING SHORELINE SEARCHES IN SUPPORT OF THE OPERATION. CWO [REDACTED] FROM THE MSRT/LANT DIVE LOCKER IS ON SCENE AT THE ICP AS AN ADVISOR AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE. LT [REDACTED], SECTOR BUFFALO IMD CHIEF, IS ON SCENE AT THE ICP AS THE USCG LNO. THE CHALLENGES THE DIVERS AND SONAR TEAMS FACE TODAY IS THE STRONG AND VARIABLE CURRENT, CALCULATED TO BE ANYWHERE FROM 8 TO 15 KNOTS AND REDUCED VISIBILITY. A SONAR EQUIPPED VESSELS ARE GOING TO EXECUTE A SONAR SEARCH OF THE AREA BETWEEN THOMPSON ROAD AND CANADA CHRIS

UPDATE 3: NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE INFORMED SECTOR BUFFALO OF A REPORT FROM A PASSING MOTORIST ON THE NIAGARA PARKWAY. THE MOTORIST REPORTED A "BIG BLACK WETSUIT". THE R/S DID NOT REMAIN O/S. POLICE DISPATCH SENT AN OFFICER TO THE REPORTED LOCATION OF THE OBJECT (30 FEET OFF THE ONTARIO SHORELINE) BUT THE OFFICER WAS NOT ABLE TO LOCATE THE OBJECT.

NRP THOUGHT THE OBJECT MAY BE RELATED TO THE MISSING BPD DIVER, AND LAUNCHED TWO BOATS FROM FORT ERIE FIRE AND REQUESTED ERIE COUNTY AIR ONE. AIR ONE WAS NOT ABLE TO FLY DUE TO HIGH WINDS. SBCC LAUNCHED STATION BUFFALO RB-M AND REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM GRAND ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT, WHO WAS ABLE TO LAUNCH 2 BOATS. THE AREA WAS SEARCHED FOR OVER 2 HOURS. THE RB-M WAS RELEASED DUE TO HIGH CREW HOURS, FORT ERIE FIRE BOATS DEPARTED AND GRAND ISLAND FIRE BOATS WERE RELEASED DUE TO WORSENING WEATHER. THE OBJECT WAS NEVER LOCATED.

ALL INFORMATION WAS PASSED TO D9, SMC, THE SECTOR LIAISON AND SECTOR COMMANDER. BUFFALO PD WAS NOTIFIED, AS WAS JRCC TRENTON AND WESTERN NY ALERT REGION 1 COORDINATOR. DUE TO POOR WEATHER IN THE BUFFALO AREA, CONTINUED SEARCHING AT NIGHT WOULD NOT BE PRUDENT, SAFE, OR EFFECTIVE.

UPDATE 2/FINAL: BUFFALO P.D. HAS CALLED OFF RECOVERY OPERATIONS FOR THE NIGHT AND RELEASED ALL ASSETS. THE MH65 AND RB-M COMPLETED SEARCH WITH NEGRES AND ARE RTB. CASE CLOSED FOR TEXT PURPOSES.

UPDATE 1: ALL AGENCIES INVOLVED COMPLETED SEARCHES WITH NEGRES. SMC (BUFFALO P.D.) CONFIRMED THEY GRANTED ACTSUS. RECOVERY EFFORTS CONTINUE. MH-65 IS CURRENTLY ON SCENE FLYING OVERHEAD FOR RECOVERY EFFORTS AND THE RB-M IS ALSO

ASSISTING WITH RECOVERY EFFORTS. BUFFALO P.D. PLANS TO CONTINUE EFFORTS
UNTIL AROUND 2100 LCL AND SUSPEND RECOVERY EFFORTS FOR THE NIGHT.

INCIDENT TYPE: INITIAL - SAR
DATE/TIME INCIDENT: 131705Z OCT 17
VESSEL NAME: N/A
SMC: BUFFALO P.D.
GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: UPPER NIAGARA RIVER - BUFFALO, NY
MISLE: 1102403

SITUATION: SECTOR BUFFALO RECEIVED A REPORT OF A BUFFALO POLICE DIVER
TRAPPED UNDERWATER IVO SQUAW ISLAND UPPER NIAGARA RIVER.

ACTION: SECTOR BUFFALO DID NOT ISSUE A UMIB DUE TO CONCERN FOR MARINER AND
DIVER SAFETY IN THE AREA. SECTOR LAUNCHED A 45' RB-M FROM STATION BUFFALO
AND REQUESTED THE LAUNCH OF AN MH-65 FROM AIR STATION DETROIT. BUFFALO P.D.
ASSUMED SMC DUE TO BEING THE FIRST ON SCENE AND DIRECTING MULTIPLE OGA'S.
THE DIVE TEAM BELIEVED THE TETHER LINE OF THE MISSING DIVER WAS HUNG UP ON
AN OBJECT UNDERWATER AND ASKED THE RB-M TO MOVE THE LINE IN AN ATTEMPT TO
FREE IT. UPON MOVING THE TETHER LINE IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE LINE WAS
CUT. THE MISSING DIVER'S SECONDARY OXYGEN TANK AND MOUTH PIECE RESURFACED
IVO WHERE THE TETHER LINE ENTERED THE WATER. THERE ARE CURRENTLY AT LEAST 10
AGENCIES ON SCENE INCLUDING BUFFALO P.D., BUFFALO F.D., TONAWANDA MARINE
UNIT, HAMBURG WATER RESCUE, ERIE COUNTY MARINE, FORT ERIE MARINE UNIT, CBP
MARINE UNIT, CBP HELO'S, ERIE COUNTY AIR 1, STATE POLICE HELO, AS WELL AS
MULTIPLE DIVE TEAMS. AN ICP HAS BEEN STOOD UP ON UNITY ISLAND AND STATION
BUFFALO'S OIC HAS ARRIVED ON SCENE. THE RB-M HAS PARAMEDICS AND EMTS ON
BOARD READY TO RESPOND IF THE MISSING DIVER IS LOCATED. THE MH-65 ARRIVED AT
NIAGARA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND IS AWAITING TASKING FROM SMC (BUFFALO
P.D.).

FUTURE PLANS: SEARCH EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE WITH THE MULTIPLE ASSETS ON
SCENE.

D. INVOLVED SUBJECTS:
PERSON NAME: UNKNOWN REPORTING PARTY, BUFFALO 911, DOB: , ROLE:
ORG. NAME: SECTOR BUFFALO, TEL: 716-843-9570, ROLE:
OTHER NAME: LANT CC, ROLE:

E. WEATHER:
WEATHER DTTM: 13OCT2017 17:23:00(Z), WEATHER DESC: BUFFALO, LOCATION: WEST FERRY, NY,
WEATHER SOURCE: ACCUE WEATHER, WIND SPEED: 13 KTS, WIND DIR: 180 T, GUST SPEED: 15 KTS,
AIR TEMP: 65 F, VISIBILITY: 10.0 NM, SEA LEVEL PRESSURE: 30.19, SKY CONDITION: BROKEN,
PRECIP AMT (LAST 24 HRS): PRECIPITATION DESC: VISIBILITY PRECIPITATION DESC: WATER
CONDITION SOURCE: 45142, WATER TEMP: 65 F, WATER DEPTH: FT ABOVE MLLW, TIDE: TIDAL
SPEED: KTS, TIDAL DIR: T, RIVER SPEED: KTS, RIVER DIR: T, ICE COVERAGE: %, ICE
CHARACTER: WAVE HT: 1.0 FT, WAVE DIR: T, WAVE PERIOD: SECONDS, SWELL HT: FT, SWELL
DIR: T, SWELL PERIOD: SECONDS, WARNINGS IN EFFECT:
WEATHER DTTM: 14OCT2017 17:25:00(Z), WEATHER DESC: THE FOOT OF FERRY/NORTH OF PEACE
BRIDGE, LOCATION: WEATHER SOURCE: NOAA, WIND SPEED: 8 KTS, WIND DIR: 160 T, GUST SPEED:
10 KTS, AIR TEMP: 62 F, VISIBILITY: 5.0 NM, SEA LEVEL PRESSURE: SKY CONDITION: CLEAR,
PRECIP AMT (LAST 24 HRS): PRECIPITATION DESC: VISIBILITY PRECIPITATION DESC: WATER
CONDITION SOURCE: NOAA, WATER TEMP: 65 F, WATER DEPTH: FT ABOVE MLLW, TIDE: TIDAL
SPEED: KTS, TIDAL DIR: T, RIVER SPEED: KTS, RIVER DIR: T, ICE COVERAGE: %, ICE
CHARACTER: WAVE HT: 1.0 FT, WAVE DIR: T, WAVE PERIOD: SECONDS, SWELL HT: FT, SWELL
DIR: T, SWELL PERIOD: SECONDS, WARNINGS IN EFFECT:

WEATHER DTTM: 12OCT2017 22:39:00(Z), WEATHER DESC: KBUF, LOCATION: WEATHER SOURCE: KTS, WIND SPEED: 10 KTS, WIND DIR: 170 T, GUST SPEED: KTS, AIR TEMP: 68 F, VISIBILITY: 15.0 NM, SEA LEVEL PRESSURE: 3017.00, SKY CONDITION: BROKEN, PRECIP AMT (LAST 24 HRS): PRECIPITATION DESC: VISIBILITY PRECIPITATION DESC: WATER CONDITION SOURCE: WATER TEMP: F, WATER DEPTH: FT ABOVE MLLW, TIDE: TIDAL SPEED: KTS, TIDAL DIR: T, RIVER SPEED: KTS, RIVER DIR: T, ICE COVERAGE: %, ICE CHARACTER: WAVE HT: FT, WAVE DIR: T, WAVE PERIOD: SECONDS, SWELL HT: FT, SWELL DIR: T, SWELL PERIOD: SECONDS, WARNINGS IN EFFECT:

WEATHER DTTM: 15OCT2017 15:21:00(Z), WEATHER DESC: UNITY ISLAND, LOCATION: WEATHER SOURCE: NOAA, WIND SPEED: 6 KTS, WIND DIR: 20 T, GUST SPEED: 9 KTS, AIR TEMP: 63 F, VISIBILITY: 5.0 NM, SEA LEVEL PRESSURE: SKY CONDITION: OVERCAST, PRECIP AMT (LAST 24 HRS): PRECIPITATION DESC: VISIBILITY PRECIPITATION DESC: WATER CONDITION SOURCE: NOAA, WATER TEMP: 65 F, WATER DEPTH: FT ABOVE MLLW, TIDE: TIDAL SPEED: KTS, TIDAL DIR: T, RIVER SPEED: KTS, RIVER DIR: T, ICE COVERAGE: %, ICE CHARACTER: WAVE HT: 1.0 FT, WAVE DIR: T, WAVE PERIOD: SECONDS, SWELL HT: FT, SWELL DIR: T, SWELL PERIOD: SECONDS, WARNINGS IN EFFECT:

WEATHER DTTM: 15OCT2017 10:56:00(Z), WEATHER DESC: UPPER NIAGARA RIVER, LOCATION: WEATHER SOURCE: NOAA, WIND SPEED: 8 KTS, WIND DIR: 20 T, GUST SPEED: 9 KTS, AIR TEMP: 63 F, VISIBILITY: 5.0 NM, SEA LEVEL PRESSURE: SKY CONDITION: OVERCAST, PRECIP AMT (LAST 24 HRS): PRECIPITATION DESC: VISIBILITY PRECIPITATION DESC: WATER CONDITION SOURCE: NOAA, WATER TEMP: 65 F, WATER DEPTH: FT ABOVE MLLW, TIDE: TIDAL SPEED: KTS, TIDAL DIR: T, RIVER SPEED: KTS, RIVER DIR: T, ICE COVERAGE: %, ICE CHARACTER: WAVE HT: 1.0 FT, WAVE DIR: T, WAVE PERIOD: SECONDS, SWELL HT: FT, SWELL DIR: T, SWELL PERIOD: SECONDS, WARNINGS IN EFFECT:

WEATHER DTTM: 15OCT2017 11:25:00(Z), WEATHER DESC: UPPER NIAGARA RIVER, LOCATION: WEATHER SOURCE: NOAA, WIND SPEED: 19 KTS, WIND DIR: 210 T, GUST SPEED: 23 KTS, AIR TEMP: 71 F, VISIBILITY: 7.0 NM, SEA LEVEL PRESSURE: SKY CONDITION: OVERCAST, PRECIP AMT (LAST 24 HRS): PRECIPITATION DESC: VISIBILITY PRECIPITATION DESC: WATER CONDITION SOURCE: NOAA, WATER TEMP: 65 F, WATER DEPTH: FT ABOVE MLLW, TIDE: TIDAL SPEED: KTS, TIDAL DIR: T, RIVER SPEED: KTS, RIVER DIR: T, ICE COVERAGE: %, ICE CHARACTER: WAVE HT: 5.0 FT, WAVE DIR: T, WAVE PERIOD: SECONDS, SWELL HT: FT, SWELL DIR: T, SWELL PERIOD: SECONDS, WARNINGS IN EFFECT:

WEATHER DTTM: 15OCT2017 23:00:00(Z), WEATHER DESC: STRAWBERRY ISLAND, LOCATION: WEATHER SOURCE: NOAA, WIND SPEED: 19 KTS, WIND DIR: 300 T, GUST SPEED: 24 KTS, AIR TEMP: 59 F, VISIBILITY: 1.0 NM, SEA LEVEL PRESSURE: SKY CONDITION: OVERCAST, PRECIP AMT (LAST 24 HRS): PRECIPITATION DESC: VISIBILITY PRECIPITATION DESC: WATER CONDITION SOURCE: NOAA, WATER TEMP: 65 F, WATER DEPTH: FT ABOVE MLLW, TIDE: TIDAL SPEED: KTS, TIDAL DIR: T, RIVER SPEED: KTS, RIVER DIR: T, ICE COVERAGE: %, ICE CHARACTER: WAVE HT: 2.0 FT, WAVE DIR: T, WAVE PERIOD: SECONDS, SWELL HT: FT, SWELL DIR: T, SWELL PERIOD: SECONDS, WARNINGS IN EFFECT: GALE

12. ACTION TAKEN:

130024Z OCT17: DEPART TIME AND LOCATION

130322Z OCT17: SORTIE END TIME AND LOCATION

131705Z OCT17: INITIAL NOTIFICATION - ENTRANCE TO THE BLACK ROCK LOCK CANAL

131706Z OCT17: NO UMIB DUE TO INCIDENT AND AREA. BUFFALO F.D. ON SCENE

131707Z OCT17: SECTOR BUFFALO RECEIVED A REPORT OF A DIVER TRAPPED IVO FERRY STREET NIAGARA RIVER

DISTRESS/ PHASE DETERMINED

ORM CONDUCTED IAW THE GAR MODEL NO SIGNIFICANT RISK FACTORS IDENTIFIED. CDR DROZDOWSKI IS SMC

131719Z OCT17: SECTOR BUFFALO SMC BRIEFED

131720Z OCT17: SECTOR BUFFALO BRIEFED D9

131728Z OCT17: STA BUFFALO RBM ON SCENE

131729Z OCT17: BUFFALO RBM DIRECT TO PULL A LINE WITH THE DIVER ATTACHED.

131735Z OCT17: RBM REPORTS A TANK AND MOUTH PIECE

131740Z OCT17: BUFFALO POLICE REPORTS THE TANK IS THE BACK UP TANK

131757Z OCT17: ERIE COUNTY AIR ONE ON SCENE SEARCHING

131814Z OCT17: ASKED STATION BUFFALO TO SEND A REP TO THE ICP

131815Z OCT17: UPDATED SMC. SMC WILL BRIEF CAPTIAN.

131821Z OCT17: UPDATED D9

131828Z OCT17: ASSETS WE KNOW ERIE COUNTY AIR ONE REPORTS 1 HOUR ON SCENE TIME

CG 45490 FORT ERIE FIRE 6 AND BUFFALO FIRE ZODIAC 1. ALSO THE CIVILIAN BOAT "A MOLE" ALSO ERIE COUNTY SHERIFF MU2 AND MU3. TONAWANDA POLICE, CBP 150. HAMBURG (ALERT).
NEW YORK PARKS POLICE.
131828Z OCT17: SECTOR BUFFALO REQUESTED A 65 FROM DETROIT
131853Z OCT17: CBP HELO ETA 25 MIN
131937Z OCT17: 45690 REPORTS 3 EMTS AND 1 DOCTOR
131945Z OCT17: STATE POLICE HELO ON SCENE
131959Z OCT17: GAR UPDATED TO 17
132007Z OCT17: CO DEPUTY UPDATED
132016Z OCT17: BMC [REDACTED] REPORTS. SMC IS BUFFALO PD, SONAR HIT 42-54.843N 078-54.252
132020Z OCT17: UPDATE D9 BUFFALO 45 CREW HAS 6.9 HRZ UNTIL FITGUE. BUFFALO PD IS SMC
132104Z OCT17: STATE POLICE SEARCH COMPLETE NO VISUAL OR IR TARGETS. DEPARTING SCENE

WEST CHANNEL TO THE FALLS

132107Z OCT17: CBP FOUND A MASK APPROX HALF WAY BETWEEN THE PEACE BRIDGE AND INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE. CDO NTFD
132148Z OCT17: ERIE AIR ONE DEPARTING SCENE
132152Z OCT17: CBP AIR DEPART
132202Z OCT17: CBP AIR DEPART SCENE
132212Z OCT17: CASE VALIDATED BY MR. [REDACTED]

OFF WATCH

132246Z OCT17: CONTACTED THE COMMAND POST AND ICP HAD SPOKE WITH SMC AND THEY HAD SHIFTED FROM ACTIVE SEARCH INTO RECOVERY MODE.
132256Z OCT17: BRIEFING CAPT DUFRESNE ON RECOMMENDING ACTSUS AND CONTINUE SUPPORT TO BUFFALO PD WITH SURFACE AND AIR ASSETS.
132308Z OCT17: ACTSUS GRANTED BY SC AND CONCURS TO CONTINUE SUPPORT AS AN ASSIST UNIT FOR THE BUFFALO PD.
132311Z OCT17: SMC WILL HAVE A MEETING AT 2030L TO POSSIBLY SUSPEND RECOVERY OPS FOR THE EVENING AND CONTINUE IN THE MORNING.
140026Z OCT17: CG6566 HAS COMPLETED SEARCH AND WILL REFUEL AND THEN RTB.
140126Z OCT17: BUFFALO PD IS SUSPENDING SEARCH FOR THE EVENING AND WILL CONTINUE OPS IN THE MORNING. STATION BUFFALO RTB.
140126Z OCT17: BRIEFING SMC CDR DROZDOWSKI ON UPDATE.
140134Z OCT17: CISM OFFERED TO ICP AND OTHER BOAT CREW MEMBERS, NONE WAS NEEDED BUT WILL CONFIRM WHEN BOAT GETS BACK.
140938Z OCT17: CASE VALIDATED BY OS1 [REDACTED].
141700Z OCT17: REQUESTED TIME
141700Z OCT17: LAUNCH TIME AND LOCATION
141725Z OCT17: ON SCENE/CSP TIME AND LOCATION
150128Z OCT17: DEPART TIME AND LOCATION
150154Z OCT17: SORTIE END TIME AND LOCATION
151045Z OCT17: REQUESTED TIME
151045Z OCT17: LAUNCH TIME AND LOCATION
151056Z OCT17: ON SCENE/CSP TIME AND LOCATION
151114Z OCT17: REQUESTED TIME
151114Z OCT17: LAUNCH TIME AND LOCATION
151125Z OCT17: ON SCENE/CSP TIME AND LOCATION
151510Z OCT17: REQUESTED TIME
151511Z OCT17: LAUNCH TIME AND LOCATION
151515Z OCT17: DEPART TIME AND LOCATION
151521Z OCT17: ON SCENE/CSP TIME AND LOCATION
151545Z OCT17: SORTIE END TIME AND LOCATION
151637Z OCT17: DEPART TIME AND LOCATION
151703Z OCT17: SORTIE END TIME AND LOCATION
152225Z OCT17: SBCC RECEIVED REPORT FROM NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE STATED SOMEONE DRIVING SAW WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE A BLACK WET SUIT 30 FT OFFSHORE NIAGARA PARKWAY AND FRENCHMANS LANE. SBCC LAUNCHED STATION BUFFALO AND ISSUED UMIB. ERIE FIREBOATS ARE ON SCENE AND DOING SHORELINE SEARCHES FOR THE WET SUIT. STATION BUFFALO ON SCENE.

OCT17: REQUESTED TIME
OCT17: LAUNCH TIME AND LOCATION
OCT17: ON SCENE/CSP TIME AND LOCATION
OCT17: STATION BUFFALO ARRIVED ON SCENE.
OCT17: A DOCK OWNER AT 1977 SERVICE ROAD 3 FOUND A TEATHERLINE AT HIS DOCK.
OCT17: SBCC BRIEFED SMC.
OCT17: SBCC BRIEFED LT [REDACTED].
OCT17: DEPART TIME AND LOCATION
OCT17: SBCC BRIEFED GRAND ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT TO SEE IF THEY CAN ASSIST.
OCT17: SORTIE END TIME AND LOCATION
OCT17: REGIONAL POLICE WERE ABLE TO LOCATE THE TEATHERLINE AND SEIZED IT.
OCT17: GRAND ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS ASSETS GET UNDERWAY TO ASSIST.
OCT17: DEPART TIME AND LOCATION
OCT17: SORTIE END TIME AND LOCATION
OCT17: STATION BUFFALO, ERIE FIRE BOATS, AND GRAND ISLAND FIRE HAVE SUSPENDED
SEARCH EFFORTS.
OCT17: CASE VALIDATED BY OS3 [REDACTED] UNDER THE INSTRUCTION OF OS1 [REDACTED]
OCT17: INITIAL:

150218Z - D9 REPORTS SECTOR BUFFALO RECEIVED A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE BUFFALO PD FOR A TRAPPED DIVER IVO BLACK ROCK CHANNEL IN THE NIAGARA RIVER ON 13OCT. HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE BUFFALO PD UNDERWATER RECOVERY TEAM AND WAS CONDUCTING TRAINING WHEN HE BECAME TRAPPED AND DID NOT RESURFACE. SECTOR BUFFALO LAUNCHED A 45' RB-M FROM STATION BUFFALO AND REQUESTED THE LAUNCH OF AN MH-65 FROM AIR STATION DETROIT. SEVERAL OGAS WERE ON SCENE SEARCHING. ON 14 OCT, SECTOR BUFFALO RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM THE INCIDENT COMMAND POST (ICP) FOR ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFYING A MORE QUALIFIED DIVE TEAM DUE TO THE SIGNIFICANT CURRENT IN THE AREA. A TARGET OF INTEREST WAS LOCATED IN THE NIAGARA RIVER BY A SIDE SCAN SONAR ARRAY BEING OPERATED BY AN OGA. LOCAL DIVERS ON SCENE WERE NOT COMFORTABLE DIVING IN THAT CURRENT. D9 CONTACTED LANTAREA, WHO MADE CONTACT WITH A U.S. NAVY LIAISON IN AN ATTEMPT TO FIND MORE SUITABLE/EXPERIENCED DIVERS. LANTAREA NOTIFIED D9 THAT DOD ASSETS ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO CONDUCT DIVING OPERATIONS FOR THIS MISSION. MSRT WEST WILL PROVIDE A DIVE OFFICER TO ASSIST IN THE ICP AS AN SME. HE IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN BUFFALO LATE ON SUNDAY EVENING, 15 OCT. STATION BUFFALO IS STANDING BY FOR FURTHER REQUESTS TO ASSIST WITH RECOVERY OPERATIONS. CASE PENDS.
161912Z OCT17: UPDATE 1:

152055Z - D9 REPORTS ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN BUFFALO HAVE OFFERED THEIR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY VESSEL WHICH CAN PROVIDE HIGH RESOLUTION SONAR IMAGES. ADDITIONALLY, THE STATE OF NY REQUESTED SWIFT WATER DIVERS FROM THE LONG ISLAND AIR NATIONAL GUARD PARATROOPERS; THEY WILL BE EN ROUTE TOMORROW (MONDAY, 16 OCT). CASE PENDS.
161913Z OCT17: UPDATE 2:

161904Z - D9 REPORTS SECTOR BUFFALO RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE (ONTARIO) THAT A PASSING MOTORIST ON THE NIAGARA PARKWAY REPORTED SEEING WHAT APPEARED TO BE A "BIG BLACK WETSUIT" FLOATING APPROXIMATELY 30 FEET OFF THE ONTARIO SHORELINE IVO SOUTHERN GRAND ISLAND. THE REPORTING SOURCE DID NOT REMAIN ON SCENE; AN OFFICER RESPONDED TO THE LOCATION BUT WAS UNABLE TO LOCATE THE OBJECT. ADDITIONALLY, TWO FORT ERIE FIRE VESSELS RESPONDED. ERIE COUNTY AIR ONE WAS NOTIFIED BUT WAS UNABLE TO LAUNCH DUE TO HIGH WINDS. NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE ADVISED SECTOR BUFFALO OF THE REPORT DUE TO POSSIBLE CORRELATION TO THE MISSING BUFFALO PD DIVER. SECTOR BUFFALO LAUNCHED STATION BUFFALO'S 45' RB-M TO ASSIST AND REQUESTED THE ASSISTANCE OF GRAND ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT WHO LAUNCHED TWO VESSELS. ALL RESPONDING ASSETS CONDUCTED MULTIPLE SEARCHES OF THE AREA OVER SEVERAL HOURS WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS AND HAVE DEPARTED THE SCENE. BUFFALO PD, JRCC TRENTON, AND THE WESTERN NY ALERT REGION 1 COORDINATOR WERE NOTIFIED. SECTOR BUFFALO IS STANDING BY FOR FURTHER REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE. CASE PENDS.

D9 REPORTS THAT DIVE AND SONAR OPERATIONS CONTINUE. THE SEARCH IS FOCUSED ON AN AREA FROM THE INTERNATIONAL RAILROAD BRIDGE NORTH TO NORTH GRAND ISLAND BRIDGE IN THE EAST CHANNEL AND THE CHIPPEWA CHANNEL THE WEST SIDE OF GRAND ISLAND. THERE ARE A TOTAL OF SIX SONAR EQUIPPED VESSELS THAT WILL BE OPERATING IN THE AREA. THREE WILL WORK SOUTH TO NORTH AND THE OTHER THREE WILL WORK NORTH TO SOUTH. STATION BUFFALO'S RB-M IS ON SCENE CONDUCTING SHORELINE SEARCHES. CWO [REDACTED] FROM THE MSRT/LANT DIVE LOCKER IS ON SCENE PARTICIPATING IN THE ICP AS AN ADVISOR AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE. SECTOR BUFFALO IMD CHIEF, IS ON SCENE AT THE ICP AS THE USCG LNO. THE CHALLENGES THE DIVERS AND SONAR TEAMS FACE TODAY IS THE STRONG AND VARIABLE CURRENT, CALCULATED FROM 8 TO 15 KNOTS AND REDUCED VISIBILITY. THE SONAR EQUIPPED VESSELS ARE ALSO EXECUTING SEARCHES OF THE AREA BETWEEN THOMPSON ROAD AND CANADA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE WHICH IS IN THE AREA OF THE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED POSSIBLE FLOATING DRY SUIT (15 OCTOBER). CASE PENDS. 171856Z OCT17: SBCC RECEIVED A REPORT THAT THE MISSING DIVER WAS FOUND ON THE BOTTOM OF THE UPPER NIAGARA RIVER IN THE VICINITY OF STRAWBERRY ISLAND. THE DIVER WAS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED BY NEXT OF KIN. DISTRICT 9 AND SMC BRIEFED. ALL ASSETS RTB AND ICP STANDING DOWN. BROADCASTS CANCELLED. CASE CLOSED. 171914Z OCT17: CASE VALIDATED BY LT [REDACTED] 172019Z OCT17: CASE HAS BEEN REVIEWED. LANT NEEDS TO CLOSE ACTIVITY. 172039Z OCT17: FINAL UPDATE:

171948Z - D9 REPORTS THE MISSING DIVER WAS LOCATED DECEASED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE NIAGARA RIVER IN THE VICINITY OF STRAWBERRY ISLAND, APPROXIMATELY 2.5 MILES DOWNRIVER (IN THE DIRECTION OF DRIFT) AND POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED BY NEXT OF KIN. AT THE TIME OF RECOVERY HE WAS WEARING ALL HIS ORIGINAL DIVE EQUIPMENT. ALL ASSETS HAVE RETURNED TO BASE AND THE ICP IS STANDING DOWN. CASE CLOSED.

13. PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

14. AMPLIFYING INFO:

15. SORTIE DATA:

M. UNIT: STATION BUFFALO, RESOURCE ID: - RBM, RISK ASSESSMENT: GREEN:17, TIME ON SORTIE: 08:53 TIME SEARCHING: 08:02
N. UNIT: AIR STATION DETROIT, RESOURCE ID: ASD, 6566, RISK ASSESSMENT: AMBER:30, TIME ON SORTIE: 08:16 TIME SEARCHING: 02:45
O. UNIT: STATION BUFFALO, RESOURCE ID: - RBM, RISK ASSESSMENT: GREEN:20, TIME ON SORTIE: 09:11 TIME SEARCHING: 09:31
P. UNIT: STATION BUFFALO, RESOURCE ID: - RBS25, RISK ASSESSMENT: GREEN:15, TIME ON SORTIE: 04:59 TIME SEARCHING: 04:18
Q. UNIT: STATION BUFFALO, RESOURCE ID: - RBM, RISK ASSESSMENT: GREEN:20, TIME ON SORTIE: 05:48 TIME SEARCHING: 05:12
R. UNIT: STATION BUFFALO, RESOURCE ID: - RBM, RISK ASSESSMENT: AMBER:27, TIME ON SORTIE: 02:45 TIME SEARCHING: 02:44
16. MISLE CASE ID: 1102403

<http://mislescprod.osc.uscg.mil/web/desktop/Uscg.Osc.Misle.Infrastructure.Shell.application?workflow=107&entityId=1102403>