

OCEAN SHORES POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

Chief of Police Richard W. McEachin

Date: 7/7/04

The Ocean Shores Police Surf Rescue Team responded to a call of five swimmers in distress, screaming for help, off of the Chance ala Mer Beach approach at 1154 AM on Wednesday. Arriving on scene within 4 minutes, the Surf Rescue Team found that two victims had made it back to shore but three remained caught in a rip current. The Surf Rescue Team launched two personal watercraft and dropped off rescue swimmers to assist the victims who had become exhausted in the surf. With the use of the personal watercraft all three victims were brought to shore and checked for hypothermia by the Ocean Shores Fire Department. The three victims were 14, 15, and 16-year-old girls from Everson Washington. This is the second rescue of three individuals from the surf by the Surf Rescue Team within the past two weeks.

The Ocean Shores Police remind those who choose to go into the water that rip currents are prevalent on Washington beaches and suggest that you do not go in the water beyond waist level. In the event you do find yourself in a rip current do not try to swim back directly back to shore but swim parallel to the beach until you are out of the rip current and then head back into shore.

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