

NEWS RELEASE



**Russel E. Burger, Sheriff
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CASE NUMBER: 2009-4287

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 05/25/2009 at 2:06PM

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 07/3/2009 at 1:00PM

NATURE OF STORY: Missing Person Located

LOCATION: Dorena area south of Wicks Road

**INVOLVED: Davis, Thomas, DOB: 04/22/1969
2487 Pheasant, #24
Springfield, OR**

DETAILS: The Lane County Sheriff's Office provided assistance to Springfield Police by providing rural and wilderness search resources and investigative follow-up relating to the above missing person.

The public was asked to provide any information regarding Davis's location. Davis was last seen in the Dorena area on 05/23/2009 at around 6:00PM. As Davis did not drive a vehicle it was difficult to determine where he may have gone. A number of search operations were conducted over the next several weeks in various areas as possible sightings were received.

On 06/25/2009 Lane County SAR used air scent search dogs provided by Marion County to assist us in an effort to determine if Davis was in several heavily wooded areas. While searching the second of three areas south and west of Wicks Road one of the search dogs led its handler to what was identified as Davis's

“camp” and personal belongings. Additional ground search teams located a deceased subject 3 hours later approximately 300 yards west of the “camp” location along a stream. The subject was later identified by the Medical Examiners Office as Davis. Per the Medical Examiner, cause of death was determined to be due to hypothermia.

For additional information contact: John Miller, Search and Rescue Coordinator at (541) 682-8544