

MEDIA RELEASE



Kennewick Police Department - "Committed to your Safety"

***** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *****

Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Time: 3:26 AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE ON-DUTY PIO OR:

Lieutenant Jason Kiel, Public Information Officer

Phone: 509-582-1317 (office)

E-mail: jason.kiel@ci.kennewick.wa.us

Non-Investigative Informational Announcement

Case Number: 22-13126

Type of Incident: Cougar sighting

Date / Time of Incident: 03/29 / 2022

Location of Incident:

Do not release suspect name if they are a juvenile.

Suspect's Name / Age:

City of Residence:

Suspect in Custody

Charges:

Verify spelling as the spell check does not work with this field.

Summary of Incident / Details:

On Tuesday, March 29th, 2022, Officers were dispatched to the 200 block of E 41st PL. for a cougar sighting. Upon arrival, officers confirmed the animal in question was a cougar and requested the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife respond. Prior to their arrival the cougar fled. There has been an additional confirmed sighting of a cougar in the area of W 4th Ave and S Huntington St. Officers are continuing to patrol and check for the animal. We would like to thank the Pasco Police Department for their assistance in sending a UAS pilot to conduct an aerial search of a canyon where the animal was sighted. We would also like to thank the WDFW who called out biologists and enforcement officers. They will be continuing the investigation. If you believe you have spotted the animal you can call non-emergency dispatch at 509-682-0333 or 911 if there is an immediate threat. If you encounter a cougar there are several important safety measures that can be taken. Never approach the cougar or offer it food. Immediately and forcibly show the animal that you are a human by looking as big as possible by waving your arms and making vocalizations. Do not run away as running combined with rapid movements may trigger a predatory response from the cougar. For more information on cougar safety in Washington you can visit <https://westernwildlife.org/cougar-felis-concolor/cougar-safety/>. If you would like to reach out to WDFW you can call 877-933-9847.



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If anyone has information about this incident, please call the non-emergency number at 509-628-0333 and reference the above case number. Anonymous tips can also be provided online at www.kpdtips.com.

Posted to Facebook

Photos, Audio, and/or Video Attached

Prepared by: Jose Mata

PIO / Supervisor

Date / Time: 03/30/2022 / 0359

