

Search for missing hiker called off

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San Jacinto Mountins
2000-021

Story by Palm Springs KMIR Channel
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Joshua Best, 35, of Palm Springs, has been missing since Saturday September 9th when he apparently went on a hike in the mountains near Palm Springs with his employer. When family members were unable to contact Best on Sept. 11, they called the police. Palm Spring Search and Rescue began a search the following day in Chino Canyon near the tramway.

Thursday police learned the last sighting of Best might have been at the top of the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway by the bartender. Crews spent most of Thursday night searching the San Jacinto Mountains for Best but were unsuccessful. RMRU was called out at 7:30 am on Friday September 15th to assist with the search. The search was called off early Friday morning.

The search efforts resumed during the daylight hours on Saturday and Sunday with no luck.

Anyone with information is asked to call Palm Springs Police at (909) 323-8116.

On Sunday Sept 17th, officials called off the search temporarily. The Palm Springs Police Dept. took over the



Joaquin Duncan, KMIR 6 News



Staff Photographer, KMIR 6 News

search from the Riverside County Sheriff's Dept. Best's car was found at the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway parking lot on Monday. The man's family is especially concerned because Best suffers from a mental disorder.

Searchers include teams from Riverside County, San Bernardino County, and San Diego County.



Photographer, KMIR 6 News

RMRU is a volunteer search and rescue team that covers Riverside County and assists other teams with search and rescue efforts in other counties. Each member purchases their own equipment and takes time off work, without compensation, to participate in search and rescue missions. Team equipment is purchased from contributions from the community. We are a non-profit organization and are funded by [donations](#) from people like you.