

## CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

April 16, 2012

## FLPD MARINE UNIT RESCUES CAPSIZED BOATERS

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at approximately 12:05 P.M., the Fort Lauderdale Police Department received an emergency call regarding a capsized sailboat in the Atlantic Ocean. Fort Lauderdale Police Marine Units responded to the area, just North of Port Everglades in the Atlantic Ocean, and located a capsized vessel with two people stranded in the water.

During the rescue, the Marine Unit Officers faced tumultuous 6' to 8 foot seas with wind gusts sustaining 20 mph. Despite these dangerously rough conditions, the Fort Lauderdale Police Marine Unit Officers were able lift one of the struggling boaters into their police vessel, while a Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue member was able to secure the other marooned boater onto the back of a jet-ski.

The Fort Lauderdale Police Marine Unit transported Raymond Clayton, W/M, 10/25/63, a Fort Lauderdale resident, back to dry land where Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue was awaiting their arrival. Clayton sustained no serious injuries from the incident.

Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue transported Ruth Ann Akroyd, W/F, 8/29/60, a Fort Lauderdale resident, to the beach on the back of their jet-ski. Akroyd was then transported to Broward General Medical Center as a precautionary measure. Akroyd sustained no serious injuries from the incident.

Due to the rough nature of the seas, the Fort Lauderdale Police Marine Unit were unable to salvage the 17' sailboat and are awaiting calmer sea conditions before attempting to retrieve the vessel.

If anyone has any further information regarding the incident, please contact the Fort Lauderdale Police Department at 954-828-5700.

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