Motorist goes missing at Fort Hood

Deployment Statistics
Lasted a total of 3 days

17 Personnel activated supporting the following resources:
• 1 Search Team
• 1 Water Rescue Squad

Type - SEVERE WEATHER

On Tuesday, April 11, 2017, a motorist was swept into Clear Creek during flash flooding on Fort Hood military base. The missing driver's vehicle was found downstream later that day, with the driver nowhere in sight. That afternoon, TX-TF1 was requested by TDEM to prepare a search team for operations that would be mobilized at 7:00 a.m. the following day. As a result, a search team composed of 1 Task Force Safety Officer, 1 Search Team Manager, 1 Live Find Canine Search Team, 2 HR Canine Search Teams, and 5 Canine Flankers was activated. Additionally, 1 Water Rescue Squad was also activated to assist with search efforts.

The Search Team and Water Rescue Squad arrived on scene at Fort Hood at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 12, to begin operations. TX-TF1 established 4 teams comprised of military, fire department, and TX-TF1 personnel. Teams worked through rough terrain throughout the next few days working an operational period of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

At 2:30 p.m. on April 13, the Water Rescue Squad entered the water with 3 Fort Hood Firefighters, and found the victim's wallet along with some personal gear. Later that day, one of the HR canines indicated in a pool above a debris pile, with a secondary hit occurring at 8:00 a.m. the following day. As a result, a dive team was then requested to search the area, where nothing was found. Teams then prepared to remove the debris in the pool area assisted by divers. Nothing was found from the debris removal as well.

All TX-TF1 resources were demobilized on April 14, at 6:00 p.m., with all team members returning home. Though the missing driver was not recovered, TX-TF1 personnel were able to help narrow down a location where they believe the victim was located, and provide recommendations to the incident commander for continued search.