

# Coast Guard News

Ninth Coast Guard District Public Affairs Office  
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## Two Coast Guardsmen dead in overnight boat accident

NIAGARA, NY – Two Coast Guardsmen from station Niagara were killed and two were injured early this morning when they were ejected from their boat while on patrol.

The two killed were:

Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Scott Chism, 25 years old, from Lakeside, Calif.

Seaman Chris Ferreby, 23 years old, from Morristown, N.J.

The injured were:

Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Michael Moss, hypothermia.

Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class William Simpson, hypothermia.

The Lewiston N.Y. Fire Rescue Boat rescued the Coast Guardsmen from Lake Ontario approximately three miles northeast of the mouth of the Niagara River at approximately 12:30 a.m. The Firemen immediately began CPR as they raced to Station Niagara.

The four Coast Guardsmen were on a law enforcement patrol. They departed the station at 7:45 p.m. in a 21-ft boat. All four were wearing dry suits and life jackets. When they failed to check-in and did not respond to any calls, local rescue units began a search.

The search covered the Niagara River, from just north of Niagara City, N.Y. to Lake Ontario.

At the station they were transferred to ambulances and taken to Mount St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston, N.Y. Chism and Ferreby were pronounced dead at the hospital after life saving efforts failed and Moss and Simpson were in stable condition.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of the boat crew from Station Niagara," said Rear Adm. James D. Hull, Ninth Coast Guard District Commander. "Our people risk their lives every day to keep our waterways safe. It is a great tragedy when members of our family are hurt in service to their country. May god bless them and keep them safe."

A U.S. Coast Guard helicopter located the 21-ft boat onshore one mile east of the Niagara River. The boat was overturned and partially submerged.

### Units involved in the search:

Lewiston Fire Rescue Boat

Erie County Sheriffs Office helicopter and two land vehicles,

Canadian Coast Guard helicopter from Trenton, Ontario.

U.S. Coast Guard helicopter from Air Station Detroit.

For more information contact the Ninth Coast Guard District Public Affairs Office at (216) 902-6109, (216) 522-6006.