



**Nogales Police Department
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MEDIA RELEASE: July 21, 2026

**Nogales Police Department Issues Statement Regarding Police Vehicle Swept Away
in Flood Control Channel**

Nogales, Arizona — On Saturday, July 18, 2026, at approximately 1:13 p.m., the Nogales Police Department received a report that an adult female had possibly been swept into a flood control wash in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico.

Officers responded to multiple observation points along the flood control channel in an effort to locate the reported individual. Upon arrival, officers observed that the channel was mostly dry, with no flowing water. Based on their observations, officers determined that the report was unfounded.

As part of the search effort, Officer Manuel Stimans entered the flood control channel using the access point adjacent to the Holbrook Overpass near the intersection of North Bankard Avenue and North Morley Avenue to conduct security checks of the channel.

While driving within the channel, the marked patrol vehicle became stuck in sand and mud. Officer Stimans requested assistance, and officers began preparing to free the vehicle. During those efforts, officers were alerted to rapidly approaching water flowing through the channel. Recognizing the potential danger, all officers immediately discontinued recovery efforts and safely exited the channel.

A short time later, the flow of water reached the location and swept the marked patrol vehicle downstream. The vehicle eventually came to rest adjacent to North Hohokam Drive near the entrance to the waste transfer station.

No officers were injured during the incident. The patrol vehicle was recovered from the wash on Sunday, July 19, 2026.

The Arizona Department of Public Safety responded to assist with documenting the incident. In accordance with Nogales Police Department policy, a bifurcated administrative investigation has been initiated. Because Officer Manuel Stimans was directly involved in the incident, he has been placed on administrative suspension pending the completion of the investigation. Administrative suspension is a standard procedural measure and should not be interpreted as a disciplinary action or a determination of wrongdoing.

The Nogales Police Department remains committed to conducting a thorough review of the incident and will provide additional information as appropriate upon the conclusion of the investigation.

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