

Trooper prevents Springfield woman's suicide off freeway overpass

by Cheryl McDermott

A distraught 41-year old Springfield, Oregon woman wearing only a coat, shorts and slippers during a snowstorm was convinced not to jump from a 60-foot overpass above Interstate-5 Tuesday morning by an Oregon State Police (OSP) lieutenant.

The woman, whose name police did not release, was taken into protective custody and transported to Sacred Heart Hospital in Eugene for mental evaluation, OSP reported.

Shortly after 8:30 a.m., January 30, Lt. Mike Bloom was patrolling the area when he reported seeing the woman standing on the Glenwood Interchange overpass railing, clinging to a protective screen about six stories above the freeway onramp.

The lieutenant spoke to the distraught woman, who later admitted she was going to commit suicide, and after five minutes was able to talk her out of carrying out her plan.

“Shortly afterward, she attempted to run but was overtaken and detained at 8:45 a.m., troopers said.

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