Officers search Sandia foothills for woman who feared husband

By Jolina Gutierrez Krueger
Tribune reporter

Law enforcement on foot, with dogs, on horseback and in the air combed the Sandia foothills in search of any traces of a missing Albuquerque woman who warned friends last month that her life was in jeopardy.

The search fanned out across the Embudo Canyon trailhead area east of Menaul Boulevard with Albuquerque police, Bernalillo County sheriff's deputies and the city's Open Space officers looking for clues in connection with the disappearance of Girly Hossencofft.

The 36-year-old bank employee has been missing since Sept. 10 when she failed to show up for work. Co-workers told authorities she had warned them that she feared for her life because she was in the midst of a volatile divorce from her husband, who also vanished that same day.

Thursday's search for the woman is not the first conducted by Albuquerque police and probably won't be the last, APD Detective John Walsh said.

"This is one of many places we are looking at," Walsh said. "We may conduct others."

Walsh declined to say why the Embudo Canyon trailhead area was selected as a search site, adding only that it was "one of the places that investigators have deemed where detectives wanted to conduct a search."

By 10:30 a.m., searchers appeared to come up empty handed.

Hossencofft's husband, Diazien Hossencofft, 34, was arrested Sept. 21 in South Carolina and extradited to New Mexico on a federal complaint for making interstate threats to injure people.

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