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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## TFD RESCUES FATHER AND 8 YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER FROM WASH WASH DRY AND THEY ENTERED, TRAPPED BY FLASH FLOOD

Tucson Fire units rescued an 8 year-old female and her father from a wash behind the neighborhood in the 4000 block of South Avenida De Las Palmas, with both taking refuge in a tree as waters quickly rose. Shortly after 7:00 P.M., units were dispatched for a swift water rescue to the address stated above. The Public Information Officer for the department was the first to arrive on scene and was met by the mother at the street. She screamed that her family was stuck in the wash behind the house. The PIO ran through the back yard and down into the wash area to confirm how many people were stuck. Contact was made with the father and he stated that he and his daughter were the only two, both of whom had climbed a tree to avoid the running water. Additional personnel arrived on scene and quickly determined how to rescue the father and daughter. Four firefighters made their way across the wash in an in-line position to the stranded pair, with additional safety equipment for both. The 8 year-old was then placed in the middle of the four firefighters and the five went back across the wash to safety. The daughter was then taken to the mother away from the wash. The same technique was used to then get the father. TFD units were also placed down stream as a standard procedure in the case that someone is swept away. Though scared, neither father nor daughter required medical attention after being rescued.

Safety Message: During the monsoon season, washes can rise very quickly. Here are some tips for safety:

- Most flash flood deaths occur in vehicles
- Moving water 1-2 feet deep will carry away most vehicles and can knock a person off their feet
- Keep children away from creeks and washes when heavy rain is in the area
- Be especially careful at night when water depth and road conditions are harder to see

## WHEN IN DOUBT, WAIT IT OUT!!





## **NEWS RELEASE**

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