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Several Monterey County Sheriff Search and Rescue deputies at the site of a crime scene last March are bringing the first of two bodies out of the Arroyo Seco River gorge area in the Los Padres National Forest, where two male youths were found dead in the river. A group of 27 students from San Francisco's urban pioneer experiential academy was on an 11-day backpacking trip.

Covering the miles

Sheriff deputies at south county substation deal with distance, funding shortage

By **VICTOR CALDERON**
The Salinas Californian

Miles and miles of highway travel comes with the job for deputies at the south county substation of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.

"Our location is a bit of a challenge, and oftentimes you're responding to calls alone or your backup is far away," said Detective Jim Miller, who has served in the investigations unit of the sheriff's office for about 25 years.

Police communications can be lost in several areas, too, officers said.

The King City substation's duties include investigating crimes in the rural part of unincorporated Monterey County from south of Gonzales to the San Luis Obispo county line.



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Monterey County Sheriff Deputy Sgt. Scott Ragan places yellow crime scene tape across a trail to block the entrance to a crime scene at the Arroyo Seco River gorge area.

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