



# Media RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: May 20, 2016**

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## ***Carson City Fire Department Urges Citizens to Avoid Swimming in the Carson River***

Recently, the Carson City Fire Department conducted Swift Water Rescue Training to ensure crews have the skills and experience for effective rescues from the shoreline and in the waterway. Training procedures include maneuvering treacherous waterways and understanding water behavior. Typically a current less than 5 mph is enough to lose control and be swept away.

The Carson River water level is high with a medium-quick water flow producing harsh waves. The river's flow is considered a Class II, which is moderate. The ability to swim in the waterway will be diminished due to rapid and unpredictable currents. The characteristics of the river can change dramatically as the water level rises or falls. During heavy storms a set of Class II rapids can quickly become a violent Class IV.

Carson City Fire Chief Bob Schreihans urges citizens to be careful on the water's edge and avoid swimming in the waterway. The potential dangers are injury or death. Please be advised to avoid exploring the waterway alone; either on a flotation device or by boat. Inform others if you are attempting to go near or in the waterway.

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