

# David Sutter

## **Certifications:**

- Arkansas Certified Firefighter I/II
- Swiftwater Rescue Technician, MCSAR
- NASAR SARTech I
- Swiftwater Rescue Technician, Indiana River Rescue School
- Swiftwater Boat Operator, Zodiac Maritime Academy
- NFPA Rope Rescue Technician Level, MCSAR
- HAZMAT Technician
- Trench Rescue Operations
- Confined Space Rescue Technician
- NIMS Planning Section Chief
- Arkansas Medical First Responder
- Industrial Climber / Rigger
- Crane Operator

## **Background:**

I have been a proud member of the Fort Smith Fire Dept since Feb 2002. I helped create the water rescue team within the Fort Smith Fire Dept. I have been allowed the privilege to teach at various ISAR Classes as a subject matter expert in Maps and Navigation, Outdoor Skills.

I have been requested by many area SAR teams to instruct at their Technical Rescue Courses, both Swiftwater and Rope. These are including but not limited to the Franklin County Sheriffs Dept, Sebastian County Sheriffs Dept, Ozark Police Dept, Barling Police Dept, Arkansas State Troopers, Barling Fire Dept, Watalula Fire Dept, Altus Fire Dept, Barnes Mountain Fire Dept, Pleasant View Fire Dept, Webb City Fire Dept, Logan County Emergency Management, Springdale Fire Dept, Fayetteville Fire Dept, among others.

I have taught as far away as Washington D.C. and Houston and love to travel to other locations to share the information that has been shared with me over the years.

## **Search and Rescue Experience:**

I have been a member of the Franklin County SAR team since July of 2002. I had the privilege of holding the Training Officer position for many years and currently hold the Deputy Coordinator position. As a member of FCSAR, I've assisted in the development of several training courses specifically catered to various Fire Departments on the subjects of hazardous terrain skills, patient access and evacuations, shore based water rescue, and many others.

Due to the high level of SAR callouts in my county in Arkansas (Franklin), and surrounding counties, including Crawford, Madison, Johnson, Logan, among others, I have achieved somewhere in the neighborhood of 1000 + hours of real world SAR missions. These hours include Ground Search (where I functioned as a Hasty Team Leader, K-9 Team Leader, Ops Chief and Incident Command), Water Search (same leadership roles), including many body recoveries, multiple Swiftwater Rescues (both as a Rescue Swimmer and as Rescue Command), High Angle Rescues (both as a Rescuer and as Rescue Command). I also have 1700+ hours of formal Search and Rescue training, with approximately 540hrs being in Technical Rescue, both Rope and Swiftwater.

## **Hare Mountain Rescue:**

I am now the owner and operator of Hare Mountain Rescue. I purchased the equipment and took over from Madison Co SAR in 2014 after they offered the package to me. I had been an apprentice instructor under them for many years and felt proud and humbled when they offered this opportunity to me.

We offer technical rescue training to the surrounding counties and numerous professional and volunteer fire departments. We have on staff 4 instructors who are highly motivated to share their knowledge with others. Our instructors are also very patient and never quit until the student truly understands the information they are sharing.

I am so very proud of the work we have done over the years and hope to continue to provide proper, up to date instruction in Technical rescue for our Sisters and Brothers for many years to come.