

**Middlebury Police Department
Media Release**

10 April 2008

SUBJECT: Missing Person Investigation – Nicholas Garza

Water Search

The Saranac Fire Department Technical Rescue Team (SFDTRT) completed a search of the Otter Creek from the dam and waterfall in downtown Middlebury to the CVPS dam just south of the Pulp Mill Bridge.

Nothing relevant to the investigation into the disappearance of Nicholas Garza was found.

In addition to the water search, technicians entered an old foundation in the woods off of College Street and explored the small foundation. The lower part of the foundation had several feet of water in it. The technicians used underwater cameras in this search as well as physically searching the ruin.

Nothing relevant to the disappearance of Nicholas Garza was found. This area had been previously searched by several teams of searchers at different times, in addition to canine teams.

Technicians report that the strong current and high water conditions in Otter Creek inhibited their ability to reach any definitive conclusion on the search, and several areas of the Creek were inaccessible to the team.

USGS reports the creek is up several feet since Saturday and is still rising.

Both the SFDTRT and the Colchester Technical Rescue Team have recommended researching this river when water levels return to normal.

Future Operations

Members of the Vermont State Police Search and Rescue Team will be meeting with investigators from the Police Department next week to formulate a wide-area ground search and long-term operations.

Unless there is some significant development in this case, the next media release will be distributed once plans for the next search are developed.

In the meantime, the investigation into the manner and cause of Nicholas' disappearance is continuing. One of the two special investigators retained by the department on March 3 is still on assignment, in addition to the local investigators.

All media releases can be found at www.middleburypolice.org, click on "news".

Chief Thomas Hanley