Date: July 25th, 2019 Contact Information: Brent Shatto

Ref: News Release Chief of Police

712-362-3515

**7-Year-Old Rescued from Water Tower**

Estherville, IA – On Thursday, July 25, 2019, at 10:05 am, the Estherville Police Department was contacted in regard to a missing 7-year old female with Autism.

Responding Officers began an immediate search of the area and contacted additional officers for assistance. Estherville Officers requested the assistance immediately of the Drone used by the Emmet County Emergency Manager, Travis Sheridan. While the Drone was responding to the scene, a family member located the child and directed responding officers to a water tower located near the family residence. The City of Estherville Water Tower is located between North 8th Street and North 9th Street just North of 14th Avenue North.

Officers found the child near the top deck of the water tower clinging to the ladder. Officers and Firefighters on scene located a tarp nearby and fashioned a catch area beneath the child in the event that she would fall. Officers requested the Estherville Fire Department to respond with their ladder truck to assist in the rescue of the child.

The Estherville Fire Department arrived on scene with the ladder truck and elevated it to the child. It was then determined that the child had her head stuck between two rungs of the ladder and could not get out. The Estherville Fire Department was assisted by the City of Estherville Electrical Department in taking equipment to the basket of the ladder truck to cut the child free.

The firefighters brought the child to the ground where she was examined by Paramedics and EMT’s of the Estherville Ambulance Service. She was then released to her parents.

Also assisting the operation were employees of the City of Estherville Water Department.

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