

Dispute over decision not to pursue rescue

By Ruben Vives, Los Angeles Times

When his body was discovered, 34-year-old Andres Marin was still sitting on his light blue mountain bike, leaning against the side of a hill in the Cleveland National Forest.

He had his helmet on and his binoculars were around his neck; his hands were on the handlebars and his feet on the pedals.

"He was still trying, he was still fighting," his wife, Christyna Arista, said. "He froze to death up there."

On Tuesday, Arista, 33, said she's not sure what happened to her husband during his birthday bike ride, but she was angry that the Riverside County Sheriff's Department had suspended its rescue efforts.

Sheriff Lt. Zachary Hall said rescue efforts were suspended because of poor weather conditions, a decision mountain experts backed.

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