

Incident Summary Page for the Smokejumper Line of Duty Death

Name of Smokejumper LODD: David J Liston (FBX-98)	Incident Name: Pre-Season Training
	Incident Date & Time: April 29, 2000
Smokejumper Base: Alaska	Incident Location: Fort Wainwright, Alaska
Personal Information	
<p>Dave, 28, died April 29th, while working as a Smokejumper for the Bureau of Land Management's Alaska Fire Service.</p> <p>A veteran Smokejumper with 64 previous jumps, Dave “rookied” in Alaska in 1998. He began his fire service in Oregon in 1993 on the Deschutes National Forest and came to Alaska in 1995 to work on the Midnight Suns Hotshot crew.</p> <p>Born in Portland Oregon, Dave graduated from Gladstone High School where he was a champion wrestler. The son of a Forest Service lead plane pilot, he also had attended Clackamas Community College.</p> <p>Recently married, Dave was survived by his wife Kristin. Starting their lives together in Alaska, Dave and Kristin lived in a small cabin in the Rainbow Valley area outside of Anchorage and had recently purchased property in the North Pole/Fairbanks area. His fellow jumpers remember him for his free spirit, positive attitude, and always doing more than what was expected.</p>	
Brief description	
<p>Dave was among a group of eight Smokejumpers participating in mandatory pre-season recertification practice jumps. During his fifth refresher jump, Dave’s parachute failed to open, and he plunged 3,000 feet to his death. Emergency medical care was immediately provided by other EMT trained Smokejumpers to no avail.</p> <p>The subsequent investigation showed that his drogue parachute deployed but the main parachute did not. The reserve pilot-chute bridle and suspension lines entangled with the main drogue bridle preventing either parachute from deploying.</p>	
Links to more information on this incident:	
<p>https://lessons.wildfire.gov/incident/smokejumper-refresher-qualification-jump-fatality-2000 https://wlfalwaysremember.net/2000/04/29/david-liston/ https://alaskafirememorial.com/the-fallen-1/2019/3/8/david-liston</p>	



Incident Summary Page for the Smokejumper Line of Duty Death

