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For immediate release:  
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## Central Kitsap man killed in tree felling

**Silverdale, Wash.** -- A Central Kitsap resident was killed this afternoon when a cable parted allowing a tree the man was felling on his property to fall, crushing him.

Frank L. Johnson, age 58, was pronounced dead at his residence by emergency medical personnel from Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue. His wife, who heard the tree crash, ran out of their residence to find her husband underneath the tree.

Kitsap County Sheriff's deputies conducted an investigation into the death together with deputy coroners from the Kitsap County Coroner's Office.

The incident occurred around 1:40 p.m. on Johnson's property in the 10700 block of Verissimo Lane NW, in Central Kitsap. His death appears to be accidental.

Investigators believe that Johnson was using a chain saw to fell a 14" (diameter) tree on his property. He had attached a manual "come along" ratchet & cable device to secure the target tree to a second tree that was in close proximity, in order to keep the target tree under control during the cutting process.

Investigators report that the cable of the come along device failed and parted, causing the target tree to fall in other than the intended felling line direction. The tree landed on top of Johnson as he attempted to clear the tree's unexpected felling path.

An autopsy is scheduled to be conducted by the county's forensic pathologist.

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