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Citizens Avert Woman's Jump Into Missouri River

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (AP) - Police in St. Joseph are praising three citizens who prevented a distraught woman from jumping off a heavily traveled bridge into the Missouri River.

KQTV reports the 41-year-old woman had already climbed onto the railing on the Pony Express Bridge when the three rescuers pulled over around 7:30 a.m. Thursday.

Dave Williams, Heidi Utt and Marilee Dishon, all of St. Joseph, grabbed the woman's arms and legs and held on until police arrived.

Williams told the station he was the second person to pull over while he was driving to work. He says he told the woman that if she was going into the river, he was going with her.

The woman was taken to a local hospital for an evaluation.

The Pony Express Bridge carries U.S. 36 across the Missouri to Elwood, Kansas.