



Reports from the North Dakota Highway Patrol

The accident reports, listed below, have been provided by the ND Highway Patrol. This is not a complete report of all accidents or activities of the Highway Patrol, but only that information released to the media.

Reports are listed with the newest reports at the beginning of the list. It is updated once daily, or as news releases are received.

6-28-2016 Fatal Crash – McKenzie County

Location of Crash: Hwy 73-28 miles E of Watford City, 8 miles NW of Mandaree

Safety restraints: None

Vehicle #1 Description: 2003 Dodge Ram 2500 driven by 41 year old male

The Dodge was traveling east on Highway 73. The driver was negotiating a left-hand curve on a grade. The vehicle crossed the fog line and drove onto the right shoulder. The driver attempted to correct by steering left, causing him to lose control of the vehicle. The vehicle spun counterclockwise, entered the north ditch, and rolled. The vehicle struck a tree and came to rest on the edge of the highway. The driver was ejected.

The crash is under investigation. The exact time of the crash has not been determined. The victim's name will be released at a later date.

Fireworks caused vehicle fire on I-29

FARGO, N.D. – Yesterday at 8:38 p.m., two NDHP troopers responded to a vehicle fire on northbound I-29 near mile marker 60. Witnesses reported fireworks igniting inside a 2005 Mercury Montego with two occupants. Fargo Fire Department personnel responded to the incident.

Once on scene, troopers observed Fargo FD extinguishing a fire inside the Mercury's passenger compartment. Two male occupants were transported from the scene by a passerby to Essentia Hospital in Fargo prior to NDHP arrival.

When interviewed at Essentia Hospital, a 17-year-old male driver did not appear to be injured. An 18-year-old male passenger suffered second and third degree burns to his body. Both occupants reside in Fargo.

Prior to the fire, the males purchased fireworks at a fireworks business south of Fargo. While driving back to Fargo, the passenger was igniting a cap gun when a cap sparked and ignited the fireworks inside the passenger compartment of the vehicle.

Unattended Death in Benson County – June 25, 2016

On Saturday, June 25, 2016, at approximately 11:35 a.m., the North Dakota Highway Patrol responded with the Benson County Sheriff's Department to a report of a train/pedestrian crash in Leeds, ND. The report was made when BNSF Railroad employees saw what they believed to be a body on the tracks. Upon arrival at the scene, responding officers discovered that a 55 year old man, from Leeds, had died on the railroad tracks, but not due to being struck by a train. The North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Benson County Coroner also responded to the scene to investigate the unattended death. This death remains under investigation by the North Dakota BCI, the Benson County Sheriff's Department, and the ND State Forensic Medical Examiner's Office. At this point in the investigation, there is no suspicion of foul play.

6/23/2016 Fatal Crash in Morton County

Time of Crash 4:15 p.m.

Location of Crash: I-94,6 miles west of Glen Ullin

Vehicle Description: 1994 Chevrolet Blazer driven by Scott Minkley, a 57 year old male from Hazen.

The Chevrolet was eastbound on I-94. The driver lost control and the vehicle entered the south ditch. The Chevrolet rolled and came to rest on its tires in the ditch. The driver was ejected and pronounced dead on scene.

Safety Restraints: None

The crash is under investigation.

6/19/2016 Injury Crash in Richland County

Time of Crash: 4:00 p.m.

Location of Crash: I-29, mile marker 25 (2 miles north of Mooreton)

Vehicle Description: 2001 Ford F150 driven by 21 year old Marissa Cutler of West Fargo. No safety restraints.

The Ford F150 was southbound on I-29 in the left hand lane. The F150 entered the median and rolled over. The vehicle came to rest on its side in the northbound passing lane of I-29. The driver, who was not wearing her seatbelt was ejected and sustained serious injuries. The crash is still under investigation.

Agencies Involved: Richland County Sheriff's Office, Dwight Fire Department; Mooreton Fire Department.

6/17/2016 Injury Crash in Barnes County

Time of Crash: 1:50 p.m.

Location of Crash: 9-94 Eastbound, mile marker 290 west edge of Valley City

Vehicle Description: 2005 Honda Accord driven by 27 year old Fatumata Sheriff with passenger 23 year old Oumarou Sheriff, both of Bismarck.

The Honda was traveling eastbound of I-94 in the right lane, approaching a slower moving vehicle. Before rear ending the other motorist, the driver of the Honda swerved left to avoid a collision. After taking evasive action, the driver of the Honda lost control and slid into the median. After entering the median, the vehicle rolled, coming to rest in the median partially blocking the eastbound passing lane. The driver and passenger of the Honda were transported to Mercy Hospital to be treated for injuries. The crash remains under investigation by the NDHP.

6/16/2016 Injury Crash in Nelson County

Time of Crash: 3:05 p.m.

Location of Crash: Lakota Junction Hwy 1 and Hwy 2

Vehicle #1 Description: 2009 Pontiac G8 driven by 67 year old Michael Fratzke with passenger, 63 year old Kathleen Fratzke, both of Winonia, MN.

Vehicle #2 Description: 2015 Hyundai Sante Fe driven by 25 year old Todd Olson of Grand Forks with passenger, 34 year old Nicholas Gratton of Walhalla.

The Fratzke vehicle was traveling west bound on US Hwy 2 from their residence in Winona, MN to Minot, ND. Upon approaching the intersection of ND Hwy 1, Mr. Fratzke noticed a vehicle stopped at the north stop sign begin to pull out in an attempt to cross Hwy 2. He attempted to avoid the collision but was unable. The Olson vehicle was stopped at the north stop sign on ND Hwy. 1, waiting to travel east bound on US 2 to Grand Forks. Mr. Olson started south bound across Hwy. 2 in his attempt to travel eastbound to Grand Forks and was struck by the Fratzke vehicle. The Fratzke vehicle came to rest facing southwest in the center median. The Olson vehicle came to rest facing west on the westbound shoulder of US Hwy.2. Both vehicles were towed, due to damage.

The Fratzkes were taken by Lake Region ambulance to Mercer Hospital in Devils Lake where they were treated and released. Mr. Olson was issued a traffic citation for failing to yield at a stop intersection.

6/15/2016 Injury Crash in Stark County

Crash Date: 6/15/2016

Time of Crash: 12:17 p.m.

Location of Crash: Hwy 22 and 47th St. SW in Stark County

Vehicle #1 Description: 2016 Ford F-550 food delivery truck driven by 46 year old Darran Decker of Dickinson.

Vehicle #2 Description: 2004 Oldsmobile Alero driven by 23 year old Whitney Grover with passenger 23 year old Glenn Kremer, both of Dickinson.

The Ford was northbound and the Oldsmobile was southbound on Highway 22. The Oldsmobile driver attempted to negotiate a left-hand turn onto 47th St. SW. The driver's side of the Ford struck the Oldsmobile's front passenger door. After impact, the Ford entered the ditch. The Oldsmobile rotated counterclockwise and came to rest on the shoulder.

The Oldsmobile driver and passenger were transported to Dickinson by ambulance for medical treatment. The driver was life-flighted to Bismarck for further treatment.

This crash is under investigation by the North Dakota Highway Patrol

Agencies involved: NDHP and Stark County Sheriff's Department.

6/14/2016 – Fatal Crash McHenry County

Crash Date: 6/14/2016

Time of Crash: 5:45 p.m.

Location of Crash: McHenry Co. Rd. 7, 1 mile south of Hwy. 52

Vehicle #1 Description: 1993 Dodge pickup driven by 41 year old male of Kief.

Vehicle #2 Description: 2007 Subaru Impreza driven by 19 year old male from Minot. Passenger was a 19 year old male.

The Dodge was southbound and the Subaru was northbound on McHenry County Road 7. The Subaru driver failed to maintain control of the vehicle and the Subaru rotated, sliding into the southbound lane. The Dodge struck the driver's side of the Subaru. Both vehicles came to rest on the roadway.

The Subaru driver suffered fatal injuries and was pronounced dead on the scene. The Subaru passenger was transported to Minot by helicopter for medical treatment. The Dodge driver was injured and transported to Minot by ambulance for medical treatment.

Names will be released at a later date.

Agencies involved: NDHP, McHenry Co. Sheriff's Office, Velva Fire Dept.

Injury Crash Mercer County 6/14/2016

Crash Date: 6/14/2016

Time of Crash: 7:10 a.m.

Location of Crash: Hwy 200, mp 911- Mercer County

Vehicle #1 Description: 2005 Kenworth driven by 58 year old Robert Walker of Box Elder, SD.

Vehicle #2 Description: 2006 Peterbilt driven by 41 year old Ronald Muresan of Williston, ND

Vehicle #3 Description: 2006 Peterbilt driven by Lavern Lee, South Shore, SD.

The Kenworth was traveling east on Highway 200A when the driver failed to negotiate a left hand turn in the roadway. The Kenworth crossed the center line and entered the westbound lane of travel. The Kenworth struck vehicle #2 in the driver's side rear triple axels, then struck vehicle #3 in the left front fender. The driver of the Kenworth was transported to the hospital where he was treated and released. The other drivers were uninjured. All three vehicles sustained disabling damage. The crash remains under investigation.

Agencies involved: ND Highway Patrol, Mercer & Oliver County Sheriff's Dept., Hazel Rescue, Oliver County Fire Dept.

Injury Crash Morton County 6/14/2016

Crash Date: 6/14/2016

Time of Crash: 11:22 a.m.

Location of Crash: I-94 at the Grant Marsh Bridge in Morton County

Vehicle #1 Description: 2012 Freightliner & 2016 Utility trailer, driven by 45 year old Solomon Gebrehewot from Alberta, Canada.

Vehicle #2 Description: 2013 Chevrolet Malibu, driven by 24 year old Preston Pollard from Bismarck.

The Chevrolet was eastbound on I-94 when the driver lost control of the vehicle in the rain. The Chevrolet entered the eastbound Freightliner's lane of travel. The Freightliner struck the Chevrolet at an angle. The driver of the freightliner was transported to Bismarck for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. The driver of the Chevrolet was uninjured. The crash is under investigation.

Agencies involved: Morton County Sheriff's Office, ND Highway Patrol.

I-94 MM 303

Crash Date: 6/13/2016

Time of Crash: 6:25 p.m.

Location of Crash: I94, mile marker 303, eastbound, near Oriska Rest Area

Vehicle #1 Description: 2003 Pontiac Grand Am, driven by 33 year old Heather Marie Howard Butler, from Riverside, Iowa. One passenger, 35 year old Michael Jason Kemp from Santa Ana, Calif.

The Pontiac was eastbound on I-94 when the driver lost control of the vehicle and the Pontiac entered the south ditch of I-94. After entering the ditch, the Pontiac rolled, coming to rest in the south ditch on its wheels, facing northeast. The driver of the vehicle, Butler, was not restrained and was ejected during the crash and come to rest in the south ditch. The passenger, Kemp, remained in the vehicle during the crash, but it is unclear if he was restrained. Butler was transported via Sanford Life Flight from the scene to Sanford Hospital in Fargo for serious injuries. Kemp was transported by Barnes County Ambulance to Sanford Hospital and was treated and released. The crash remains under investigation.

Fatal Crash

Crash Date: 6/12/2016

Time of Crash: 10:35 p.m.

Location of Crash: Junction of Highway 83, 5 mi E and 1 mi N of Garrison

Vehicle #1 Description: 2015 Ford F250, driven by 28 year old male from Minot.

Vehicle #2 Description: Miller Nitro Sprayer driven by 57 year old male from Garrison

The Ford was northbound on Highway 83. The sprayer was traveling from east to west across Highway 83 on 17th St. NW, from a field to the operator's residence. The Ford struck the sprayer in the northbound lane, ejecting the sprayer operator. Both vehicles came to rest in the northbound lane. Both drivers were transported to Trinity Hospital in Minot. The Ford driver was treated and released that evening. The sprayer driver was pronounced dead at Trinity hospital. Names will be released at a later date.

Update 6/14: Names Released – Jon Henderson of Minot was the driver of the Ford pickup. Kelly Erdmann of Garrison was the operator of the sprayer.

McIntosh County Plane Crash

Crash Date: 6/9/2016

Time of Crash: 3:27 p.m.

Location of Crash: May Lake (1.5 Miles South of Wishek)

According to the ND Highway Patrol, on June 9, 2016, at 3:27 p.m., a 1964 Piper Cherokee, 4-seat airplane departed the Wishek Airport en route to Bismarck. Complications during the take-off resulted in the plane crashing in to May Lake, approximately 1.5 miles south of Wishek.

The pilot of the airplane was a 19 year old male. Two passengers included a 39 year old female and a 10 year old male. All three occupants in the plane suffered fatal injuries resulting from the crash. The names have not been released.

This crash remains under investigation by the FAA.

Agencies involved: Wishek Police Department, Logan County Sheriff's Office, McIntosh County Sheriff's Office, Ashley Ambulance, Wishek Fire, ND Highway Patrol.

Morton County Fatal Crash

Crash Date: 6/7/2016

Time of Crash: 4:27 p.m.

Location of Crash: Old Highway 10, 12 miles west of Mandan

According to the ND Highway Patrol, on June 7, 2016, at 4:27 p.m., a 2006 Ford F-150, driven by 35-year old Ryan Riveland of Mandan, entered the eastbound lane. The Ford swerved back into the westbound lane, striking the rear of a 1970 Chevrolet Pickup driven by 83 year old Robert Slavick of New Salem. Slavick was pushed into a ravine on the north side of the road. He died on scene.

Riveland was injured and his passenger, 24-year old Avis Stegall of Mandan was not injured. Charges against Riveland are pending the Morton County State's Attorney's review.

Agencies involved: ND Highway Patrol.