



VILAS COUNTY SHERIFF

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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ACCIDENT FATAL

Three vehicle crash Case No. 11-00185

Conover, Wisconsin, Vilas County, January 6, 2011--- On this date at approximately 1038 hours, the Vilas County Sheriff's Department received a phone call from an individual who was reporting that a motor vehicle crash had just occurred on USH45, south of CTH K. Additional information indicated that three vehicles were involved, and that two of those vehicles had overturned.

Numerous personnel from the Vilas County Sheriff's Department, and the Conover Ambulance and Fire Departments were dispatched to the scene. Upon their arrival, it was determined that a female passenger in one of the vehicles had died at the scene. The drivers of the all of the vehicles involved were conveyed by ambulance to the Eagle River Memorial Hospital. Their condition is not known at this time.

The name of the sixty nine year old victim is being withheld, pending notification to the family. She was previously a Conover, Wisconsin resident. The names of the other individuals involved in this accident are also being withheld.

This incident remains under investigation by the Vilas County Sheriff's Department, as well as the office of the Vilas County Coroner. The preliminary investigation indicates that slippery road conditions may have contributed to the accident.

Update January 7, 2011 --- As of this date and time, it is believed that the following was likely to have occurred:

A '03 Chevrolet pickup truck was southbound on USH45 and was being operated by John Williams of Conover, WI. His wife Patricia was the sole passenger in their vehicle. It appears that the Williams' vehicle began to lose traction, and it skidded into the northbound lane. It was initially struck by a '03 Ford Explorer that was northbound on USH45. The Explorer was operated by Gary Goska of Conover, WI. Williams' pickup truck was then struck a second time by a northbound '07 Chevrolet pick truck that was operated by Walter Bert of Conover, WI.

It has been confirmed that Patricia Williams lost her life as a result of this crash. The remaining individuals, whom have been transported to the Eagle River Memorial Hospital, received non-life threatening injuries.

USH45 was closed to vehicular traffic for approximately 1½ hours, and traffic was detoured accordingly.

Captain John Butler
January 7, 2011