

Investigation Continues on Quadruple Fatal Traffic Crash

by Bend Weekly Sources

Oregon State Police crash reconstructionists are continuing the investigation into Sunday afternoon's fatal traffic crash that resulted in the deaths of four people on Highway 26 about eight miles east of Government Camp. Investigators have advised that some witnesses have been in contact for statements, and additional witnesses are asked to call to provide information related to this investigation. The fatal crash occurred May 7, 2006, at approximately 1:20 p.m. on Highway 26 near milepost 63.7. Oregon State Police, ODOT and Hoodland Fire Department responded to the crash.

Preliminary investigation indicates a black 1999 BMW four-door driven by ANDREY A. BLASHISHIN, age 22, from northeast Portland, was eastbound on Highway 26 when it crossed the centerline and crashed into a westbound silver 2004 Dodge Intrepid driven by GARY DEAN MATLICK, age 55, from Bend. BLASHISHIN was transported to Legacy Emanuel Hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries. According to hospital staff today, he is no longer a patient at the hospital. Investigators are attempting to confirm safety restraint use. Three passengers in the BMW were pronounced deceased at the scene. DIANA TIMOFEYEVA, age 19, from northeast Portland, was ejected from the vehicle. RUVIM I. BUGA, age 16, from northeast Portland, and NATALIA BLASHISHIN, age 23, from northeast Portland, remained in the vehicle. Investigators have confirmed NATALIA BLASHISHIN was using safety restraints, and are attempting to confirm safety restraint use by TIMOFEYEVA and BUGA. GARY MATLICK was transported to Legacy Emanuel Hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries. Hospital staff have confirmed he has been upgraded to good condition. Investigators are attempting to confirm his safety restraint use. The passenger of the Dodge Intrepid, JACQUELINE MAE MATLICK, age 56, from Bend, was pronounced deceased at the scene. She was using safety restraints. The Dodge Intrepid's airbag deployed. The BMW's airbag did not deploy. Investigators continue to ask for the public's help and are interested in talking to anyone who may have been eastbound on Highway 26 that observed the black 1999 BMW 328i four door prior to the crash. Anyone with information is asked to contact Senior Trooper Dan DeHaven, Oregon State Police - The Dalles Area Command, at (541) 296-9646 ext. 5322. No arrests or enforcement action has been taken.

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