

Redmond Man Seriously Injured In Hwy. 97 Rollover

by Richard Burton

A Redmond man was seriously injured early Saturday morning when he was ejected from his pickup as it rolled after crossing into the oncoming lane of traffic on Highway 97 south of Redmond, said authorities.

Justin D. Lester, 24, was traveling south on Highway 97 near milepost 124 when the accident occurred about 2:45 a.m. December 23. Oregon State Police (OSP) reports his 2001 Ford F-350 pickup drove into the oncoming northbound lanes, crossed the shoulder area, rolled, and ejected the driver.

Lester was flown by AirLife helicopter to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend, where he was reported to be in serious condition.

OSP troopers from the Bend office are continuing the investigation, although accident scene assistance was provided by the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. Highway 97 was closed for about 1½ during accident investigation and cleanup.

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