

Icy Streets Lead to Death of Bend Man in Old Mill District

by Cheryl McDermott

A Bend man was fatally injured Wednesday morning when he lost control of his pickup on an icy street corner in the Old Mill District and hit a curb. Police say he got out of his vehicle, and was struck by another pickup that also slid on the same icy area.

Bend Police officers and Bend Fire Department paramedics were called to the intersection of SW Bond Street and SW Scalehouse Loop about 7:49 a.m. Dec. 27 in response to a report of an injury vehicle crash involving a pedestrian, said Sgt. Ron Taylor.

When they arrived, they found German Cordoba, 25, underneath a pickup and transported him by ground ambulance to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend, where he later died of his injuries.

Preliminary investigation suggests Cordoba lost control of his 2006 Dodge Ram pickup on icy streets and hit a curb as he was turning right onto SW Scalehouse Loop from SW Bond Street.

After Cordoba exited his vehicle, he was struck by another pickup that also slid on the icy roadway as it attempted to make the same right turn. Anthony W. Dehart, a 49-year old Bend resident, was driving the second pickup, a 2004 Ford F-150 pickup.

The investigation is continuing and will be reviewed by the Deschutes County District Attorney's Office for possible charges, Taylor said.

The Bend Police Department recommends keeping a watchful eye on the ever-changing weather conditions during the winter driving months, and advises taking additional time and precautions when driving on icy or snowy roadways.

The sergeant noted weather conditions have contributed to numerous vehicle crashes over the past few months, some of which have resulted in personal injury. Driving too fast for the conditions present is a violation of Oregon state traffic laws, Taylor said, and can result in a violation with a varying degree of fines or a criminal charge if recklessness or negligence is a contributing factor.

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