

Semi-Car Crash Claims the Life of One on Highway 97

by Bend Weekly News Sources

A man was killed early Tuesday morning when his car drifted into the oncoming lane of traffic and hit a semi tractor-trailer on Highway 97 south of La Pine, closing both highway lanes for hours.

The victim, Bryce Douglas Jansen, 35, of La Pine, Oregon was driving a 1992 Chevrolet Beretta northbound when he drifted into oncoming traffic shortly before 2:30 am August 1st.

Robert Brown, a 32 year old Eugene, Oregon resident was at the wheel of a 2006 Freightliner with double trailers. Brown attempted to avoid the collision but was hit head-on, rolling south and coming to rest on the northbound shoulder. The semi sustained major front-end damage, and the passenger car was totaled.

According to Lt. Shane Nelson of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, Jansen was not wearing a safety restraint, was ejected from the vehicle and died at the scene.

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Oregon State Police, ODOT, and La Pine Fire Department. Both lanes of Highway 97 were blocked for approximately 1.5 hours, and then one lane of traffic was open for several hours.

Investigation into the crash is ongoing.

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