3 Injured, 1 Dead in Redmond Hwy 97 Crash

by Cheryl McDermott

One person died and three were injured in a fiery vehicle crash on Highway 97 south of NW Canal Boulevard in Redmond last Saturday night. According to a news release from the Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s Office, initial investigation indicates that a 1989 GMC Sierra swerved into oncoming traffic and crashed into a pickup when the driver was unable to stop behind a line of other vehicles that had been stopped to allow a car to turn left.

Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s Deputies were dispatched to the scene of the accident shortly before 6 pm July 29th. Raymond Lloyd Hurtado, a 43 year old Warm Springs resident crossed the center line and crashed into a 1969 Chevy pickup driven by Venustiano Arroyo Bolanos of Porterville, California. Hurtado was cited for Reckless Driving.

Hurtado, his passenger Kimberly Rae Jordan of Clackamas, and Bolanos were all transported to St. Charles Medical Center by ambulance with unknown injuries.

The passenger of the 1969 Chevy pickup, 49 year old Guillermo Reyes Tapia of Salina California, was deceased at the scene, said Sergeant Paul Garrison.

The Chevrolet pickup briefly ignited in flames and caused a fuel spill which required the assistance of the Redmond Fire Department Haz-Mat response team. In addition, Oregon State Police, Redmond Police Department, and ODOT all assisted at the scene.

According to Sgt. Garrison of the Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s Office, alcohol does not appear to be a factor although the incident is still under investigation.

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