

Driver Arrested in May Quadruple Fatality Crash involving Bend Couple

by Bend Weekly News Sources

The driver of a car involved in a May 7th fatal traffic crash on Highway 26 east of Government Camp that resulted in the death of four people was arrested Friday morning following an indictment by the Wasco County Grand Jury. Andrey A. Blashishin (OSP Photos) The May 7th crash on Highway 26 near Government Camp killed four and caused serious injury to a fifth person. On August 4, 2006 at 10:09 am, Andrey A. Blashishin, age 22, from northeast Portland, was arrested without incident at his residence by Oregon State Police Sergeant Pat Shortt, Senior Trooper Thad Routson, and Detective Dan Swift. Blashishin was indicted by the Grand Jury on four counts of Manslaughter in the Second Degree and one count of Assault in the Third Degree. The indictment was the result of an Oregon State Police investigation into a two-vehicle fatal crash on May 7, 2006 at approximately 1:20 p.m. on Highway 26 about eight miles east of Government Camp. The indictment alleges that Blashishin recklessly caused the deaths of four people, and serious injury to a fifth person, while operating a 1999 BMW four-door eastbound on Highway 26 near milepost 64 when it crossed the centerline and crashed into a westbound 2004 Dodge Intrepid driven by Gary Dean Matlick, age 55, from Bend. Three passengers in the BMW were pronounced deceased at the scene. They were identified as Diana Timofeyeva, age 19, from northeast Portland; Ruvim I. Buga, age 16, from northeast Portland; and, Natalia Blashishin, age 23, from northeast Portland. Buga and Natalia Blashishin, the driver's sister, reportedly lived at the same address as the driver. Also killed in the crash was Jacqueline Mae Matlick, age 56, from Bend. She and her husband, Gary, were traveling to Portland to attend a concert. Oregon State Police troopers transported Blashishin to the Northern Oregon Correctional Facility in The Dalles where he will lodged in lieu of \$300,000 bail. According to the Wasco County District Attorney's Office, his initial court appearance is tentatively set for Monday, August 7th, at 1:00 p.m. Manslaughter in the Second Degree is a class B Felony. As a Measure 11 case, it carries a minimum sentence of 75 months in the custody of the Department of Corrections. Assault in the Third Degree is a class C Felony and any sentence imposed on such a charge would be governed by the Oregon Sentencing Guidelines. Conviction of that charge could result in a potential probation sentence of a period of incarceration of up to 30 months in the custody of the Department of Corrections.

Driver Arrested in May Quadruple Fatality Crash involving Bend Couple by Bend Weekly News Sources