

Four killed, seven injured in three-vehicle crash near Sandy

by Cheryl McDermott & BWNS

Two adults, a child and a toddler were killed, and seven others injured in a three-vehicle crash on Highway 26 about six miles east of Sandy, Oregon on Saturday morning, police reported.

Oregon State Police (OSP) troopers have identified the deceased as Lewis Delmar Lambert, 68, of Gaston; Janene M. Brundege, 44, of Portland; Brundege's 23-month-old daughter, Abigail Kay; and Tyler Williams, 11.

Four people were killed and seven injured in a 3-vehicle crash on Hwy. 26 near Sandy, Oregon - OSP Troopers were dispatched to the scene of the accident about 8:30 a.m. According to an OSP news release, preliminary investigation determined that Lambert was westbound in the left lane of Highway 26 and was traveling uphill in a rented 2007 Dodge Grand Caravan when, for unknown reasons, his vehicle crossed into the oncoming lane and crashed head-on into a 1998 Chevrolet Astro van.

After impact, the Chevy Astro spun around and was hit by a 2001 Toyota Sequoia, also eastbound. The Chevy van came to rest upside-down in a ditch on the eastbound shoulder, troopers said, while the Toyota stopped in the ditch facing north and the Dodge ended up in the middle of the highway.

Lambert was not wearing the safety restraints provided in the rented Dodge van and was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Chevrolet van was driven by Janene Brundege and occupied by her young daughter, her son and her son's friend. Troopers said they were on their way to the boys' baseball tournament in the Welches area. Brundege, her daughter, and Tyler Williams, 11, died at the scene. Her son, Quinton Brundege, 11, was transported to Legacy Emanuel Hospital with reportedly serious injuries. All persons in Brundege's van were using appropriate safety restraints, troopers said. The toddler is believed to have been in a child-safety seat, but was ejected from the seat and the vehicle.

The six occupants in the Toyota were on their way to a rafting trip and received what troopers described as non-life threatening injuries. The driver, 33-year old Mark E. McKell of Battle Ground, Washington, his wife Heather, 30; and David W. Liebert, 41, of Vancouver, Washington, and his wife Lindsey, 37; were all taken to Oregon Health Sciences University. Scott E. Russon, 36, of Vancouver, and his wife Janee, 33, were transported to Legacy Emanuel Hospital.

Troopers from the Portland Area Command office and Government Camp are continuing the investigation with the assistance of the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office and the Clackamas County-area interagency crash investigation team. Sandy Fire Department, Hoodland Fire Department and AMR provided medical care and transportation. Three patients were transported to the west end of Sandy where they were flown by LifeFlight air ambulance to a hospital – Quinton Brundege and two unidentified victims who were in the Toyota.

Any witnesses to the crash who may not have contacted investigators are asked to call Oregon State Police at 800-452-7888.

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