

California Father, Two Sons Killed in Head-on Crash near Sunriver

by Cheryl McDermott

Three California men were killed in a fatal head-on traffic crash that occurred Friday morning on Highway 97 about 17 miles south of Bend, and fatigue may have been a contributing factor, said authorities.

A father and two adult sons on their way to the Bend area from Oakhurst, California to attend a weekend golf tournament were pronounced deceased at the scene.

The men were identified as Bryan Oneal Jamison, 25 (the driver), his brother Sean Oneal Jamison, 26; and father John Oneal Jamison, 58.

Highway 97 accident scene, 17 miles south of Bend near milepost 157. OSP photo. Preliminary investigation indicates that about 6:45 a.m. September 29, a Cadillac Escalade sport utility vehicle (SUV) driven by Bryan Jamison, traveling northbound on Highway 97 near milepost 157 drifted across the centerline and crashed head-on into a Sterling semi-truck towing a trailer-load of sheet rock. The SUV overturned and came to rest on the west side of the guardrail.

The semi-truck's driver, 39-year old John E. Lindsey of Bend, attempted to avoid the collision with the SUV by moving onto the shoulder, but was hit near the highway fog-line markings. Neither Lindsey nor his two passengers John Reid and William Burton, were injured, said the OSP news release.

All six men involved were wearing safety restraints, said investigators.

Oregon State Police (OSP) troopers from the Bend area command office are conducting the ongoing investigation.

Traffic from Highway 97 was detoured onto a secondary highway for about six hours while the scene was investigated and the highway cleared.

Deschutes County Sheriff's deputies, Sunriver Police officers, La Pine and Sunriver fire personnel, and the Oregon Department of Transportation assisted OSP troopers at the scene.

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