

Woman seriously injured in car vs. pickup crash near Sisters

by Cheryl McDermott

A 19-year-old Hines, Oregon woman was transported to the hospital by helicopter with what deputies described as serious injuries after her small car collided with the rear of a pickup waiting for oncoming traffic to pass so the driver could turn off Highway 20 near Sisters on Friday afternoon.

Although the cause of the accident remains under investigation, deputies believe that Emily Jascha Mues, 19, was traveling east in a 2001 Ford Escort on Highway 20 West about one mile east of the Sisters's city limit about 12:35 p.m., October 12, when the accident occurred, Deschutes County Sgt. Chad Davis reported.

Tomas Aniceto Garcia, 38, of Mt. Angel, Oregon, was apparently stopped in the eastbound lane waiting for oncoming traffic to pass so he could turn onto Jordan Road, Davis said. He was driving a 1994 Dodge one-ton pickup.

Witnesses told deputies that Garcia signaled his turn and was waiting for the westbound traffic when an unidentified car passed his pickup on the right. The investigation suggests that Mues was following the other car and was also attempting to pass on the right when her vehicle struck Garcia's pickup utility bed and frame. Mues's vehicle sustained what the sergeant said was heavy front-end damage.

“Mues was seriously injured,” Davis wrote in a news release. She was tended to by Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District personnel and AirLife of Oregon, and was flown by AirLife helicopter to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend.

Garcia and his unidentified passenger(s) were not injured, the sergeant reported.

Highway 20 West was closed to traffic for about one hour while the vehicles were removed from the scene.

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