

NEWS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | November 23, 2024

Eastbound I-94 MM 318 Fatal Crash – November 20th

Updated, Name Release

What: Two vehicle fatal crash

Where: Eastbound I-94 MM 318, about 12 miles west of Casselton

When: November 20th, 2024 @ approximately 6:20 pm

Road, Weather & Light Conditions: Ice covered roads, falling and blowing snow

Type of Crash: Angle crash

Agencies Involved: NDHP, Cass County SO, Buffalo QRU, Buffalo FD, Casselton FD, Casselton Ambulance, Sanford Ambulance

Vehicle No. 1: 2024 Volkswagen Tiguan

Driver No. 1: Rolf Aufforth, Bowbells, ND, 75 YOA male – deceased

Restraints: Restrained

Charges: N/A

Passenger No. 1: Vickie Aufforth, Bowbells, ND, 72 YOA female, restrained, serious injuries

Vehicle No. 2: 2013 Freightliner semi-tractor towing a van trailer

Driver No. 2: Sahardid Guhad, St. Cloud, MN, 37 YOA male - uninjured

Restraints: Restrained

Charges: under investigation

NARRATIVE:

On November 20th, 2024 at approximately 6:20 pm, a two-vehicle fatal crash occurred eastbound on I-94 near MM 318.

A 2013 Freightliner towing a van trailer was eastbound on I-94. The Freightliner approached two other commercial motor vehicles that were jackknifed in the median and not blocking the

roadway. Guhad made a brake application and lost control of his Freightliner. The Freightliner and trailer then jackknifed. The Freightliner semi-tractor entered the median and came to rest upright, facing west. The van trailer remained attached and came to rest across both eastbound lanes of I-94 facing in a NW to SE direction.

The Volkswagen was eastbound on I-94 in lane two and approached the jackknifed Freightliner. The Volkswagen struck the drivers side of the van trailer in lane two and became wedged under the trailer.

Rolf Aufforth was pronounced dead on scene. He was extricated from the vehicle. Vickie Aufforth was extricated from the vehicle and transported by Casselton Ambulance to Sanford Hospital in Fargo for serious injuries.

Snow was falling at the time of the crash, with strong northwest winds causing blowing snow and reduced visibility. I-94 was ice covered.

The crash remains under investigation by the NDHP.

For More Information Contact:

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