



MIKE LUKAS
Sheriff

OFFICE OF SHERIFF • PORTAGE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER • 1500 STRONGS AVE., STEVENS POINT, WI 54481 • 715-346-1400 • FAX 715-346-1591

News Release

Contact: Sheriff Mike Lukas
Phone: 715 346-1400
Authorized: Chief Deputy Ben Beaudoin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 11:55AM

**** UPDATE ****
Fatal Traffic Crash
US HWY 10 & Algoma St. Town of Hull

On Saturday, September 21, 2019 at approximately 4:58PM the Portage County Sheriff's Office Communications Center received a report of a three-vehicle crash near the intersection of US HWY 10 and Algoma St. in the Town of Hull. The Portage County Sheriff's Office, Stevens Point Police Department, Wisconsin State Patrol, Portage County Ambulance, Hull Fire Department and Hull EMR responded.

The initial crash investigation indicated a Saturn Ion driven by Joel Kiedrowski, age 39 of the Town of Stockton, was traveling westbound on US HWY 10. The Saturn Ion passed a westbound Toyota Rav-4 and sideswiped it before crossing the paved center turn lane. The Saturn Ion then entered the eastbound lanes of USH HWY 10 and collided head-on with an eastbound GMC Sierra pick-up truck driven by Thomas Swanson, age 63 of Hartland, WI. The Toyota Rav-4 was driven by Paul Pedersen, age 62 of Merrill, WI, and occupied by his passenger Kathleen Pedersen, age 50 also of Merrill, WI.

Joel Kiedrowski was unresponsive upon officers' arrival and pronounced dead at the scene by the Portage County Medical Examiner. Thomas Swanson suffered severe injuries and was transported to Aspirus Hospital. Kathleen Pedersen suffered nonlife-threatening injuries and was also transported to Aspirus Hospital.

A Wisconsin State Patrol Accident Reconstruction Team responded to the scene to assist in the accident investigation and reconstruction. The exact cause of the crash is still under investigation. Traffic on US HWY 10 between CTH R and CTH J was re-routed for several hours while the scene was processed and cleared.

Also assisting at the scene was the Portage County Traffic Incident Management Team and the Portage County Highway Department.

###