Sheriff Troy J. Knudson
ROCK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Barbara J. Tillman, Chief Deputy

Erik D. Chellevold
Commander, Law Enforcement Services

Craig L. Strouse
Commander, Correctional Services

MEDIA RELEASE

Janesville man dead after three vehicle crash

For Immediate Release
Date: June 17, 2019
SO1932522

Contact Person
Captain Jude Maurer
(608)757-7944

On June 17, 2019 at 3:57 PM, Rock County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to a traffic crash on Hwy 14 at Hackbarth Rd, in Janesville Township. A line of vehicles was traveling eastbound on Hwy 14 approaching Hackbarth Rd and began to slow down for a vehicle turning onto N West River Dr.

Within the line of cars was a Chevrolet Silverado, driven by Gerald E Field (36, from Watertown, WI), which failed to slow down and struck a Harley Davidson, operated by a 68 year old Janesville man. The impact pushed the Harley Davidson into the rear of a Honda Accord, driven by Johanna E Yoder (72, from Crystal Lake, Illinois. Both the operator of the Harley Davidson and the Accord had slowed down prior to the crash.

The 68 year old Janesville man was taken to a local hospital but later died. He was not wearing a helmet.

Field is believed to have been falling asleep prior to the crash. Field will be cited for Inattentive Driving.

As a result of the crash Hwy 14 was closed for approximately 2 hours.

Pursuant to the directive of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, as found in Supreme Court Rule 20:3.6, Trial Publicity, you are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Troy J. Knudson
SHERIFF

By: Sergeant Ryan Ooms
2nd Shift Patrol

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