BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Troy Heck, Sheriff
Neal Jacobson, Chief Deputy

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: 08/05/2020

AUTHORITY OF SHERIFF TROY HECK

On August 4th, 2020 the Benton County Sheriff's Office responded to the report of a motor vehicle crash in Alberta Township which injured 3 people.

At about 7:30 pm on August 4th, the Benton County Sheriff's Office was notified of a personal injury crash on 115th St NE near the intersection of 115th Ave NE in Alberta Township. Investigating deputies found that a black 2005 Chrysler 300 sedan had struck the rear end of a 2020 Polaris Ranger as both vehicles were driving westbound on 115th St NE near the intersection of 115th Ave NE. Investigating deputies found the collision resulted in Mitchell Todd Czech, age 61 of Gilman, being ejected from the driver's seat of the Polaris Ranger along with Kalley Marie Czech, age 21 of Gilman, who had been riding in the passenger seat of the Polaris Ranger. Thomas Patrick Fountain, age 21 of Royalton, was found to be the lone occupant of the Chrysler 300 as it lay on its side in the road ditch. Deputies and Foley Firefighters provided first aid to all three individuals. Deputies at the scene observed Fountain was exhibiting signs of intoxication and located other evidence indicating that Fountain's alcohol consumption was a factor in the crash. All three individuals were transported from the scene by ambulance. At the time of transport, Mitchell Czech was suffering from life-threatening injuries while both Kalley Czech and Fountain were suffering from serious but non-life-threatening injuries. At the St. Cloud Hospital, a blood draw for the purpose of determining Fountain's blood alcohol level was conducted under the authority of a search warrant. The investigation into this crash remains ongoing.

The Benton County Sheriff's Office was assisted at this incident by the Foley Police Department, Minnesota State Patrol, Foley Fire Department, and Mayo Ambulance.

Troy Heck
Benton County Sheriff