

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | April 19, 2021

UPDATE

Fatal Crash - Rolette County, North Dakota

What: Fatal Crash

Where: US Highway 281 @ Mile Marker 254.90, Dunseith, North Dakota

When: April 17, 2021 @ 4:44 P.M.

Road Conditions: Good

Weather Conditions: Cloudy

Crash Involvement: Motor Vehicle/Pedestrian

Type of Crash: Hit & Run

Agencies Involved: North Dakota Highway Patrol, North Dakota Game & Fish Department, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Rolette County Sheriff Department, Dunseith Police Department, Dunseith Fire Department, Belcourt Ambulance Service

Vehicle No. 1: 2001 Oldsmobile Alero

Driver No. 1: Joshua Forschen; Male; 25; Dunseith, ND

Restraints: Unknown; No Airbag Deployment

Charges: Hit & Run Involving Death of Victim, Class B Felony
Manslaughter, Class B Felony

Passenger No. 1: Elizabeth Falcon; Female; 20; Belcourt, ND

Restraints: Unknown; No Airbag Deployment

Passenger No. 2: Devin Hartford; Male; 26; Dunseith, ND

Restraints: Unknown; No Airbag Deployment

Pedestrian No. 1: Juvenile; Female; 7; Dunseith, North Dakota; Fatal Injuries

NARRATIVE: Forschen was traveling northbound on US Highway 281 when he encountered a group of juvenile pedestrians crossing the roadway from west to east. Forschen struck one of the pedestrians crossing the roadway. Forschen entered the east ditch after striking the pedestrian and fled the crash scene in the Oldsmobile Alero. The pedestrian was transported by ambulance to Quentin N. Burdick



Memorial Health Care Facility in Belcourt and was later life-flighted to Trinity Hospital in Minot. The pedestrian sustained fatal injuries and died at Trinity Hospital.

Forschen surrendered himself to law enforcement authorities and is in custody.

The crash remains under investigation by the North Dakota Highway Patrol.

For More Information Contact:

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