

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | September 14, 2021

**UPDATE**

**Fatal Crash - Rolette County, North Dakota**

**What:** Fatal Crash

**Where:** US Highway 281 @ Mile Marker 230.14 ~ 1 ½ Miles East of Rolla, North Dakota

**When:** September 13, 2021 @ 8:08 A.M.

**Road Conditions:** Good

**Weather Conditions:** Clear

**Crash Involvement:** Two Vehicle

**Type of Crash:** Head-on

**Agencies Involved:** North Dakota Highway Patrol, Rolette County Sheriff Department, Rolla Fire Department, Belcourt Ambulance Service - Belcourt, Community Ambulance Service - Rolla

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2018 Dodge Grand Caravan

**Driver No. 1:** Nathan Yoder; Male; 44; Belcourt, North Dakota; Fatal Injuries

**Restraints:** Seatbelt - Airbag Deployment

**Charges:** None

**Passenger No. 1:** Elizabeth Yoder; Female; 39; Belcourt, North Dakota; Serious Injuries

**Restraints:** Seatbelt - Airbag Deployment

**Passenger No. 2:** Juvenile; Female; 7; Belcourt, North Dakota; Serious Injuries

**Restraints:** No Seatbelt - Airbag Deployment

**Passenger No. 3:** Juvenile; Male; 13; Belcourt, North Dakota; Serious Injuries

**Restraints:** Seatbelt - Airbag Deployment

**Vehicle No. 2:** 2006 Jeep Grand Cherokee

**Driver No. 2:** Charles Vondal JR; Male; 22; Rolla, North Dakota; Serious Injuries

**Restraints:** Seatbelt - Airbag Deployment

**Charges:** None

**NARRATIVE:** Yoder was traveling eastbound on US Highway 281 while Vondal was traveling westbound on US Highway 281. An eastbound noncontact motor vehicle was stopped in traffic on US Highway 281 yielding to Vondal and was waiting to negotiate a left turn to travel north on 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE. Yoder attempted to overtake the noncontact motor vehicle just west of the intersection of US Highway 281 and 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE. Yoder struck Vondal head-on and both motor vehicles entered the north ditch after the collision occurred. Vehicle 1 after impact came to final rest facing mostly west on its wheels while Vehicle 2 came to final rest facing mostly south on its wheels. All occupants needed to be extricated due to the severe damaged sustained to their respective motor vehicles.

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

---

**For More Information Contact:**

**Sergeant Jeffrey Bauske** 701-328-2447  
jabauske@nd.gov