

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | December 19, 2024

North Dakota DOT Snowplow Struck in Fargo

What: Property

Where: Interstate 94 eastbound MM 351 (City of Fargo).

When: December 19th, 2024, at 1252 (Central Time).

Road Conditions: Snow and Ice

Weather Conditions: Snow and Blowing Snow

Crash Involvement: Vehicle

Type of Crash: Sideswipe

Agencies Involved: North Dakota Highway Patrol

Vehicle No. 1: 1998 Volkswagen Jetta

Driver No. 1: Mark Wolters- 23-year-old male from Little Falls, MN (Not injured).

Restraints: seatbelt

Charges: Careless Driving Causing Crash of Snow Removal Equipment.

Passenger No. 1: Taylor Huston-22-year-old male from Sauk Center, MN (Not injured).

Restraints: seatbelt

Vehicle No. 2: 2008 International ND DOT Snowplow

Driver No. 2: Robert Geske-34-year-old male from Moorhead, MN (Not injured).

Restraints: seatbelt

Charges: no charges filed.

Restraints: seatbelt

NARRATIVE:

On December 19th at approximately 1252 PM (Central Time) a ND DOT snowplow was struck on Interstate 94 near MM 351 in Fargo, ND. No injuries resulted from this collision.

The 2008 International ND DOT snowplow truck operated by (Geske) was traveling eastbound while actively removing snow to make the roads safe for travel. A 1998 Volkswagen Jetta operated by (Wolters) attempted to pass the snowplow. (Wolters) was unable to see due to snow being thrown into the air by the snowplow.

(Wolters) lost control of the Jetta and collided with the driver's side of the snowplow in a sideswipe style collision. The Jetta sustained disabling damage and came to rest blocking the left eastbound lane of Interstate 94. The snowplow sustained minor damage.

(Wolters) was charged with infraction careless driving, resulting in \$1,000 or more damage to a snowplow.

The North Dakota Highway Patrol would like to remind the public that during poor weather events, motorists must yield to snowplows. ND DOT workers work tirelessly, to ensure North Dakota roadways can be cleared and are safe for the public to travel. If it is not possible to safely pass a snowplow, the best course of action is to follow a safe distance behind the plow.

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

For more information, contact:

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