

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | July 1, 2024

**I-94-mile marker 347 Motorcycle injury crash**

**What:** Injury

**Where:** 45<sup>th</sup> street exit (Fargo, ND).

**When:** July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, 10:48 AM Central Time

**Road Conditions:** Good

**Weather Conditions:** Cloudy

**Crash Involvement:** Motorcycle vs Van

**Type of Crash:** Rear end

**Agencies Involved:** North Dakota Highway Patrol, Fargo Police, Fargo Fire, Sanford Ambulance.

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2006 Suzuki Motorcycle

**Driver No. 1:** 17-year-old Juvenile male-Fargo, ND (Minor injuries)

**Restraints:** helmet

**Charges:**

**Vehicle No. 2:** 2019 Dodge Ram Van

**Driver No. 2:** Julie Pierzina-64-year-old female-Hill City, MN (No injuries)

**Restraints:** seatbelt

**Charges:** no charges

**NARRATIVE:** On July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at approximately 10:48 AM an injury crash occurred on westbound Interstate 94 near the 45<sup>th</sup> street exit (Fargo).

A westbound Suzuki motorcycle being operated by a juvenile male was driving at a high rate of speed in the left lane of I-94. A Dodge Ram van being operated by (Pierzina) was driving in the left lane in front of the motorcycle.

As the motorcycle rapidly approached Pierzina, she attempted to change lanes to the right to allow the motorcycle to pass. The driver of the motorcycle made an abrupt lane change into the right lane as Pierzina was making this lane change. The motorcycle collided with the back of the van, in a rear end style collision.

The driver of the motorcycle was thrown from the motorcycle into the north ditch of I-94. The bike came to rest in the median. The driver of the motorcycle was wearing his helmet at the time of the crash and sustained minor injuries. Pierzina was not injured.

Traffic was impacted on I-94 westbound near the crash for approximately one hour, while emergency crews, investigated the crash, and processed the scene.

The North Dakota Highway Patrol would like to remind motorists to obey traffic laws, drive defensively, and to wear your seatbelt or other appropriate safety equipment while traveling during this 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday week.

The name of the involved juvenile and any criminal charges will not be released.

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**For more information, contact:**

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