

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

Mountrail County Fatal Crash

NAME RELEASE

What: Fatality

Where: Highway 23 Mile Marker 54, Approximately 3 miles east of New Town

When: June 18, 2024, at approximately 4:03 AM CT

Road Conditions: Wet

Weather Conditions: Light Rain

Crash Involvement: Vehicle/Construction Equipment

Type of Crash: Rear End

Agencies Involved: North Dakota Highway Patrol, Mountrail County Sheriff's Office, Three Affiliated Tribes Police Department, New Town Ambulance, New Town Fire Department

Vehicle No. 1: 2017 Honda CR-V

Driver No. 1: **Brightyn Foote**, 18-year-old Male, New Town, ND. Fatal Injuries

Restraints: Lap and shoulder bet used. Air bags deployed

Charges: None

Vehicle No. 2: 2014 John Deere 744 Payloader

Driver No. 2: **Ramon Fuentes Mendiola**, 25-year-old Male, Mexico. Not injured

Charges: Under Investigation

NARRATIVE: On June 18, 2024, at approximately 04:03 am, a 2014 John Deere 744 Payloader being driven by **Ramon Fuentes Mendiola** was driving west on Highway 23 near mile marker 54. The payloader had all of the front lights and rear lights activated. The operator of the payloader observed a vehicle (2017 Honda CR-V) being driven by **Brightyn Foote** traveling west on Highway 23 coming up behind the payloader. The operator of the payloader merged toward the shoulder of the road. The Honda CR-V struck the right rear corner of the

payloader. The payloader came to rest in the westbound lanes of Highway 23. The Honda CR-V came to rest on the north side of Highway 23. **Ramon Fuentes Mendiola** was not injured. **Brightyn Foote** sustained fatal injuries. The crash remains under investigation by the NDHP.

For more information, contact:

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