

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | September 24, 2024

UPDATE Ransom County Injury Motorcycle Crash

What: Injury

Where: 6300 block of 119th Ave SE (5 miles southwest of Fort Ransom).

When: September 15th, 2024, at 3:21 PM central time.

Road Conditions: Good

Weather Conditions: Sunny

Crash Involvement: Vehicle

Type of Crash: None Collision

Agencies Involved: North Dakota Highway Patrol, Ransom County Sheriff's Department, Fort Ransom Fire and First Medic Ambulance.

Vehicle No. 1: 2000 Honda Shadow

Driver No. 1: Monte Dean Rodacker-63-year-old male from Jamestown, ND- serious injury

Restraints: no helmet

Charges: no charges

Vehicle No 2: 2016 Harley Davidson

Driver No. 2: Darwin Kurtz-66-year-old male from Jamestown, ND-No injuries

Restraints: Unknown

Charges: No charges

NARRATIVE: On September 15th, 2024, at approximately 3:21 PM a motorcycle crash with serious injuries occurred on the 6300 block of 119th Ave southeast in Ransom County, approximately 5 miles southwest of Fort Ransom, ND.

A group of approximately 300 motorcycles were traveling northbound together on 119th Ave southeast towards Fort Ransom, ND as part of a September 11th tribute run that had started in **Valley City, ND.**

A Honda Shadow operated by (Monte Rodacker) was traveling in the middle of this group. A group of motorcycles passed Rodacker at a high rate of speed. Once in front of Rodacker, this same group rapidly deployed their brakes as they tried to negotiate a curve on the roadway.

Rodacker was forced to initiate an abrupt brake deployment to avoid a collision with the motorcycles that had just passed him. Rodacker was thrown from his motorcycle, onto the roadway.

Rodacker sustained serious injuries as a result of this crash, and was transported via ambulance to Lisbon, ND prior to being life-flighted to Sanford Hospital in Fargo, ND.

After Rodacker was thrown from his Honda Shadow motorcycle, his motorcycle struck a 2016 Harley Davidson operated by (Darwin Kurtz). Kurtz was not injured, and Kurtz's actions did not contribute to the crash Rodacker was involved in.

The North Dakota Highway Patrol is thankful for the motorists participating in the September 11th, memorial ride that came forward with information regarding the crash that occurred on September 15th, 2024. There will be no charges issued in this investigation. The driver of the trike was identified and was found to have been driving behind Rodacker at the time of the crash. The driver of the trike is no longer a person of interest.

For more information, contact:

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