

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | August 7, 2025

Southeast Region Pursuit UPDATE

NARRATIVE: On August 5, 2025, at approximately 4:40 PM, the North Dakota Highway Patrol responded to a report of a reckless driver traveling westbound on Interstate 94 in Barnes County. A Trooper located the suspect vehicle, a 2003 Volkswagen Beetle, and observed it failing to maintain its lane. A traffic stop was initiated and the suspect vehicle fled, reaching speeds of approximately 125 mph.

The pursuit continued into Stutsman County where the Stutsman County Sheriff's Department and Jamestown Police Department deployed tire deflation devices. The suspect vehicle attempted to avoid the devices and ran off the roadway resulting in a rollover crash. The driver, Tessa Schmidt, 30, from Ekalaka, Montana was treated for minor injuries at the Jamestown Regional Medical Center.

Schmidt was arrested for fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer; reckless endangerment-extreme indifference (class C felony); driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage and driving under suspension.

Contact information: Lt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse, ndhpsafetyedu@nd.gov, 701-328-2447

Notice: Updates to media releases will be posted the NDHP website:
<https://www.nd.gov/ndhp/ndhp-news>