

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | December 16, 2025

MOUNTRAIL COUNTY FATAL CRASH UPDATE

What: Fatal Crash

Where: Highway 1804, MM 274; approximately 5 miles east of the Williams County line

When: Monday, December 15, 2025, 7:55 AM, central time

Road Conditions: Icy

Weather Conditions: Dry

Crash Involvement: CMV/vehicle

Type of Crash: T-bone

Agencies Involved: North Dakota Highway Patrol, Mountrail County Sheriff's Office, Tioga Fire Department, Tioga Ambulance

Vehicle No. 1: 2007 Western Star Semi

Driver No. 1: Shawn Sexton, 48, Watford City, not injured

Restraints: Seatbelt in use

Vehicle No. 2: 2015 Chrysler 200

Driver No. 2: Gabriel Santiago, 21, Bismarck, fatal injuries

Restraints: Seatbelt in use

Passenger No. 1: Lazaro Bautista, 44, Burnsville, MN, fatal injuries

Restraints: Seatbelt in use

NARRATIVE: On Monday, December 15 at approximately 7:55 AM, a Western Star semi driven by Shawn Sexton, was traveling westbound on Highway 1804. A 2015 Chrysler 200 driven by Gabriel Santiago, crossed into the westbound lane and started to slide. The Western Star struck the driver's side of the Chrysler. Santiago and passenger Lazaro Bautista died at the scene; Sexton was not injured.

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

HEADQUARTERS | 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 504 | Bismarck, ND 58505

PHONE: (701) 328-2447 | FAX: (701) 328-1717 | ND.gov/NDHP



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

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

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