

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | November 10, 2025

MCLEAN COUNTY FATAL CRASH UPDATE

What: Fatality

Where: ND Highway 53, mile marker 47

When: Estimated evening of November 8, 2025 - morning of November 9, 2025

Road Conditions: Ice-covered

Weather Conditions: Unknown at the time of the crash

Crash Involvement: Single vehicle

Type of Crash: Rollover

Agencies Involved: North Dakota Highway Patrol, McLean County Sheriff's Office, Velva Ambulance, Butte Fire Protection District

Vehicle No. 1: 1999 Ford F-250

Driver No. 1: Ward Knutson, 63, Ruso, fatality

Restraints: No seat belt in use

NARRATIVE: Between the evening hours of November 8, 2025, and the morning hours of November 9, 2025, a 1999 Ford F-250 driven by Ward Knutson, was traveling westbound on ND Highway 53 west of Butte, ND. Knutson lost control on the ice-covered roadway and entered the south ditch, where the vehicle rolled and came to rest on its driver's side. Knutson was found deceased at the scene.

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

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

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<https://www.nd.gov/ndhp/ndhp-news>