

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | February 8, 2026

## **BURLEIGH COUNTY FATAL CRASH UPDATE**

**UPDATE:** February 9, 2026

**Driver No. 1: Doreen Hexom**, 80, Williston, fatality

**Driver No. 2: Portia Matthiesen**, 21, Bismarck, fatality

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**What:** Fatality

**Where:** Highway 83; mile marker 105; northbound lanes

**When:** February 8, 2026; 10:26 a.m. CT

**Road Conditions:** Wet

**Weather Conditions:** Foggy; visibility approximately 100 yards

**Crash Involvement:** Vehicle/vehicle

**Type of Crash:** Head-on

**Agencies Involved:** North Dakota Highway Patrol, Burleigh County Sheriff's Office, Wilton Ambulance, Wilton Fire and Rescue

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2021 GMC Acadia

**Driver No. 1:** Female, 80, Williston, fatality

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use

**Vehicle No. 2:** 2016 Nissan Maxima

**Driver No. 2:** Female, 21, Bismarck, fatality

**Restraints:** No seat belt in use

**NARRATIVE:** On February 8, 2026, at 10:26 a.m. a 2021 GMC Acadia was traveling southbound in the northbound lanes of Highway 83 near mile marker 105, 6 miles south of

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

PHONE: (701) 328-2447 | FAX: (701) 328-1717 | [ND.gov/NDHP](https://www.nd.gov/NDHP)



Wilton. The GMC Acadia struck a northbound 2016 Nissan Maxima head-on. Both drivers were transported to Sanford Medical Center in Bismarck and pronounced deceased due to injuries sustained in the crash.

The northbound lanes of Highway 83 were closed to non-residential traffic from the junction of Highway 1804/71<sup>st</sup> Ave NE to Wilton from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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

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**Contact information:** Lt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse, [ndhpsafetyedu@nd.gov](mailto: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>