

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | January 14, 2026

BENSON COUNTY FATAL CRASH UPDATE

What: Two-vehicle fatal crash

Where: Westbound US Highway 2, MM 245.5, approximately 6 miles east of Leeds

When: Monday, January 12, 10:12 AM Central time

Road Conditions: Wet

Weather Conditions: Clear, dry

Crash Involvement: Pickup/CMV with trailer

Type of Crash: Rear-end crash

Agencies Involved: NDHP, Benson County Sheriff's Office, Leeds Fire, Leeds Ambulance

Vehicle No. 1: 2011 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado

Driver No. 1: Daniel Stave, 72, Leeds, fatal injuries

Restraints: Seatbelt not in use

Vehicle No. 2: 2007 International 9400i semi-truck pulling a 2015 hopper-bottom trailer loaded with corn

Driver No. 2: Kelby Houchin, 34, Fessenden, not injured

Restraints: Seatbelt in use

Charges: Under investigation

NARRATIVE: On Monday, January 12, a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado driven by Daniel Stave, was traveling west on US Highway 2 near mile marker 245.5. A 2007 international semi pulling a trailer loaded with corn driven by Kelby Houchin, entered westbound US Highway 2 from Hwy 281 (north) and was accelerating after making the turn. The front of the Chevrolet struck the rear of the loaded trailer. Stave was severely injured and transported to CHI St. Alexius Health Devils Lake Hospital where he died. Houchin was not injured.

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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