NEWS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | December 2, 2019

2 Vehicle Injury Crash in Fortuna

What: Injury
Where: Highway 85 MM 248 and Main Street in Fortuna
When: December 2, 2019 at 12:55 P.M.
Road Conditions: Wet
Weather Conditions: Clear
Crash Involvement: Vehicle/Vehicle
Type of Crash: Rear End
Agencies Involved: ND Highway Patrol, Divide County Sheriff Department, Fortuna Fire Department, Crosby Ambulance

Vehicle No. 1: 2013 Chevrolet Silverado
Driver No. 1: Robert Lorentz, 23-year-old male from McGregor, ND, serious non-life-threatening injuries
Restraints: no seatbelt in use, airbag deployed
Charges: Under Investigation

Vehicle No. 2: 2015 Peterbilt Truck pulling tanker trailer
Driver No. 2: Gary Hayes, 62-year-old male from Salem, OR, No injury
Restraints: Seatbelt in Use
Charges: None

NARRATIVE: Chevrolet Silverado was traveling eastbound on Highway 85 thru the town of Fortuna. Peterbilt semi tanker was also traveling eastbound on Highway 85 in front of the Silverado and had just stopped at the railroad tracks. The Peterbilt had just started moving...
east again when the Silverado struck its trailer in the rear with the front center of the pickup. The driver of the Silverado, Robert Lorentz, stated he had seen the semi but then was distracted by looking at a tree row in the ditch. By the time the driver looked back to the roadway, he noticed the semi again and was unable to stop in time. Lorentz was not wearing his seatbelt and sustained serious injury. He was transported to CHI in Williston by ambulance. Crash is still under investigation by the North Dakota Highway Patrol.

For More Information Contact:
Sgt. Brian Mehlhoff 701-351-7343
blmehlho@nd.gov