

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | July 11, 2019

## **McKenzie County Fatal Crash UPDATE**

**What:** Fatal Crash

**Where:** ND 23, MM 13 (9 miles east of Watford City)

**When:** Wednesday, July 10, 2019; 10:56 pm CST

**Road Conditions:** Good

**Crash Involvement:** Vehicle/Vehicle

**Type of Crash:** Head-on

**Agencies Involved:** NDHP; McKenzie County Sheriff's Office; McKenzie County Ambulance Service; McKenzie County Fire Dept.; Keene Fire Dept.

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2014 Ford Raptor

**Driver No. 1:** Steven Candelaria, 29, Los Alamos, NM, Fatal

**Restraints:** No restraints, airbag deployed

**Vehicle No. 2:** 2014 International Semi

**Driver No. 2:** John Farris, 48, Hooper, UT; injured

**Restraints:** Seat belt, airbag deployed

**NARRATIVE:** Candelaria was traveling east on ND 23 from the Watford City area and was called in for reckless driving. He was traveling east bound in the west bound lane at a high rate of speed. The Ford crested a hill at mile marker 13 traveling in the wrong lane. A west bound International Semi was unable to avoid a collision. The vehicles hit head on in the west bound lanes. Candelaria's Ford overturned and came to rest on its wheels on the south shoulder facing north. The international ran off the north shoulder and jack knifed. Shortly after the crash an east bound semi hauling crude crested the hill and sustained damage from the crash debris on the roadway. Farris was transported to the McKenzie County Hospital.

The crash remains under investigation by the NDHP. The name of the driver will be released after notification of family.

**For More Information Contact:**

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