

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | October 30, 2019

## **One Injured in Grand Forks County Crash near Thompson**

**What:** Injury crash

**Where:** 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE at 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, approximately 2 miles east of Thompson, ND

**When:** 10/30/2019 at 2:45 PM

**Road Conditions:** Good

**Weather Conditions:** Cloudy

**Crash Involvement:** 3 vehicles

**Type of Crash:** Angle

**Agencies Involved:** NDHP, GFSO, Thompson Fire & Rescue, Thompson Fire, Altru Ambulance, Interstate Towing

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 3500

**Driver No. 1:** Jason Nelson; male; 42 years of age; of Grand Forks, ND; uninjured

**Restraints:** Seat belt not in use, air bags deployed

**Charges:** None

**Vehicle No. 2:** 2012 Ford Focus

**Driver No. 2:** Innocent Tambwe; male; 31 years of age; of East Grand Forks, MN; uninjured

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use, air bag deployed

**Charges:** Failure to yield at stop intersection

**Passenger No. 1:** Jeanine Mutesi; female; 26 years of age; of East Grand Forks, MN; non-life-threatening injuries

**Restraints:** Seat belt worn, air bag deployed

**Vehicle No. 3:** 2003 Ford F350  
**Driver No. 3:** Heron Serratos, Jr.; male; 37 yoa; of Canton, SD; uninjured  
**Restraints:** Seat belt in use  
**Charges:** None

**NARRATIVE:** Nelson was driving the Silverado south on 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE (Grand Forks County Road 81). Tambwe was driving the Focus west on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, crossing 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Serratos was on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, stopped at the intersection with 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Tambwe failed to yield to traffic on 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE and crossed too close in front of the Silverado. Nelson took evasive action but was unable to avoid a collision. His Silverado struck the right-hand side of the Focus as well as the front left-hand corner of the F350 before coming to rest in the ditch southwest of the intersection. The Silverado sustained significant front-end damage. The Focus was severely damaged. The F350 sustained moderate damage to the front. Nelson, Tambwe, and Serratos were all uninjured. Mutesi was a passenger in the Focus and was transported by ambulance to Altru Hospital in Grand Forks, ND, with non-life-threatening injuries.

The crash remains under investigation by the Highway Patrol.

---

**For More Information Contact:**

**Sergeant Ryan Panasuk** 701-328-1081  
rpanasuk@nd.gov