
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



CASE NUMBER: 11-6394

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 08/30/11 – 1:59 pm

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 08/30/11 – 8:30 pm

NATURE OF STORY: Fatal Traffic Crash

LOCATION: London Road near MP 3, South of Cottage Grove

DECEASED: Kovack, Derek C., 19, of Cottage Grove
Knee, Matthew A., 18, of Cottage Grove

INJURED: Lehman, Marshall L.S., 17, of Cottage Grove

INVOLVED: Bolan, Lawrence C., 54, of Eugene

DETAILS:

On August 30, 2011, at approximately 1:59 P.M., Lane County Sheriff's deputies responded to the area of MP 3 on London Road in southern Lane County regarding a traffic crash. Initial reports indicated that a southbound two door coupe had lost control and crossed into the oncoming traffic lane, colliding with a northbound commercial truck. 911 calls reported serious injuries to the occupants of the passenger car.

Rescue personnel from South Lane Fire District and Sheriff's deputies responded to the location. Medics pronounced two persons dead at the scene. Killed in the crash was the driver of the coupe, 19 year old Derek Kovack of Cottage Grove; and a passenger, 18 year old Matthew Knee, also of Cottage Grove. The third occupant of the car, 17-year-old Marshall Lehman of Cottage Grove was transported by ground ambulance to a Eugene area hospital with serious injuries. The driver of the commercial truck, 54 year old Lawrence Bolan of Eugene was uninjured.

Specialists from the Oregon State Police responded to the scene to conduct a vehicle crash reconstruction investigation. The commercial vehicle involved was a multi-axle truck owned by Rexus, Inc. of Eugene. There is no information at this time to suggest that alcohol was involved in this crash. The investigation into why Kovacs' vehicle went out of control is continuing.

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