

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | March 26, 2026

## **MERCER COUNTY FATAL CRASH UPDATE**

Update March 27:

**Time of crash:** 7:05 a.m. central time (corrected from original release)

**Driver No. 1:** Anthony Deavers, 35, Beulah, serious injuries

**Driver No. 2:** Laura Backhaus, 40, New Salem, serious injuries

No additional information regarding the juvenile passengers will be released.

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**What:** Fatal crash

**Where:** Highway 49, MM 84.5 and 28<sup>th</sup> St. SW, approximately 15 miles north of Glen Ullin

**When:** Thursday, March 26; 7:12 a.m. central time

**Road Conditions:** Dry

**Weather Conditions:** Foggy

**Crash Involvement:** Pickup/SUV

**Type of Crash:** Angle crash

**Agencies Involved:** North Dakota State Patrol, Mercer County Sheriff's Department, Glen Ullin Ambulance, New Salem Ambulance, Mercer County Ambulance, Glen Ullin Fire

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2022 Chevrolet Colorado

**Driver No. 1:** Male, 35, Beulah, serious injuries

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use

**Vehicle No. 2:** 2014 Ford Escape

**Driver No. 2:** Female, 40, New Salem, serious injuries

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use

**Charges:** Under investigation

**HEADQUARTERS** | 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 504 | Bismarck, ND 58505

PHONE: (701) 328-2447 | FAX: (701) 328-1717 | [StatePatrol.nd.gov](http://StatePatrol.nd.gov)

**Passenger 1:** Juvenile, 7, fatal injuries

**Restraints:** Under investigation

**Passenger 2:** Juvenile, 9, serious injuries

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use

**Passenger 3:** Juvenile, 12, serious injuries

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use

**Passenger 4:** Juvenile, 4, serious injuries

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use

**NARRATIVE:** On Thursday, March 26 at 7:12 a.m., a 2022 Chevrolet Colorado was traveling south on Highway 49, approaching the intersection with 28<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest. At the same time, a Ford Escape was traveling west on 28<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest and approached a stop sign. The Ford failed to stop and entered the intersection, crossing the path of the Colorado. The Colorado struck the Ford on the front passenger side; both vehicles left the roadway. One passenger of the Ford died at the scene. The driver of the Colorado, the driver of the Ford, and three passengers of the Ford were all seriously injured and taken to Sanford Medical Center in Bismarck.

Highway 49 was closed in both directions for approximately one hour.

The crash remains under investigation by the North Dakota State Patrol.

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**Contact information:** Lt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse, [ndhpsafetyedu@nd.gov](mailto:ndhpsafetyedu@nd.gov), 701-328-2447

**Notice:** Updates to media releases will be posted on the NDHP website:

[www.statepatrol.nd.gov/ndhp-news](http://www.statepatrol.nd.gov/ndhp-news)