

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | October 7, 2026

GRAND FORKS COUNTY INJURY CRASH UPDATE

October 8 Update:

Driver No. 1: Whitney Alvarado, 39, Manvel, serious injuries

Driver No. 2: Under investigation

What: Injury Crash

Where: Business Route 81 at mile marker 948, Grand Forks

When: October 6, 2026, at 8:00 p.m.

Road Conditions: Dry

Weather Conditions: Clear

Crash Involvement: Vehicle/commercial motor vehicle

Type of Crash: Rear-end/hit-and-run

Agencies Involved: North Dakota State Patrol, Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office, Grand Forks Police Department, Altru Ambulance, Grand Forks Fire Department

Vehicle No. 1: 2010 Buick Enclave

Driver No. 1: Female, 39, Manvel, serious injuries

Restraints: Seat belt in use

Charges: Driving under the influence, driving under suspension; additional charges are under investigation

Vehicle No. 2: 2017 Freightliner fuel truck

Driver No. 2: Under investigation

Restraints: Under investigation

Charges: Under investigation

NARRATIVE: On October 6, 2026, at approximately 8:00 p.m., a Buick Enclave was traveling northbound on Business Route 81 at a reported high rate of speed when it collided with a northbound Freightliner fuel truck. An explosion occurred immediately upon impact; however, neither vehicle caught fire. Following the collision, the Buick left the roadway to the right and

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came to rest on its wheels in the ditch with severe front-end damage. The driver of the Buick was wearing a seat belt and was transported to the hospital with serious injuries. The Freightliner left the crash scene and was later located parked and unoccupied. The fuel truck had substantial rear-end damage. Identification of the driver of the Freightliner remains under investigation.

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

Contact information: Lt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse, ndhpsafetyedu@nd.gov, 701-328-2447

Notice: Updates to media releases will be posted on the NDHP website:
www.statepatrol.nd.gov/ndhp-news