NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | December 28, 2020

Ward County Injury Crash

What: Injury Crash

Where: Highway 2, mile post 117, 3 miles West of Berthold, ND

When: December 28, 2020 11:36 AM

Road Conditions: Mix of snow and melting snow

Weather Conditions: Clear

Crash Involvement: Vehicle/Vehicle

Type of Crash: T-Bone

Agencies Involved: NDHP, Ward County Sheriff's Office, Berthold Ambulance, NorthStar Criticair, Berthold Fire and Rescue, Burlington Fire and Rescue, and the Berthold Police Department.

Vehicle No. 1:   2004 Ford Escape
Driver No. 1:   Koda Adrian William Vrieze, male, 16, Carpio, ND, injured
Restraints: Seat belt not worn, airbags deployed, ejected.
Charges: Failure to yield right of way at intersection marked with a stop sign. NDCC 39-10-24

Vehicle No. 2:   2007 Peterbilt Truck
Driver No. 2:   John Michael Holmen, male, 38, Voltaire, ND,
Restraints: Seat belt worn, no airbags
Charges: None

NARRATIVE: The Peterbilt was traveling westbound on Highway 2 at mile marker 117. The Escape was southbound on County Road 5 or 338th ST NW. At this junction the Escape failed

to stop at the intersection and entered Highway 2. The Peterbilt attempted to change lanes but was unable to avoid the Escape. The Escape's front end struck the passenger side drive axles of the Peterbilt, spinning the vehicle around, and ending with Escape's rear bumper striking the rear of the trailer pulled by the Peterbilt. Both vehicles came to rest in the north ditch. Vrieze was not wearing a seatbelt and was ejected during the crash. He sustained serious but non-life-threatening injuries and was transported by NorthStar Criticair air ambulance to Trinity Hospital in Minot. Holmen was uninjured in the crash and the Escape was totaled. Vrieze was cited for failure to yield at an intersection marked by a stop sign.

This crash remains under investigation by the NDHP.

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For More Information Contact:
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