

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | December 15, 2023

UPDATE: Grand Forks County Interstate 29 Fatal Rear-End Crash

What: Fatal Crash

Where: Interstate 29, near mile marker 136; approximately 2 miles south of Grand Forks

When: Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 5:43 PM CST

Road Conditions: Wet concrete

Weather Conditions: Dark, clear

Crash Involvement: Vehicle/Vehicle

Type of Crash: Rear-end

Agencies Involved: North Dakota Highway Patrol, Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office, Grand Forks Police Department, Thompson Fire & Rescue, and Altru Ambulance Service

Vehicle No. 1: 2012 GMC Acadia

Driver No. 1: James Kemp; Male; 81 years old; Devils Lake, ND; fatal injuries

Restraints: No seatbelt; no airbags deployed

Vehicle No. 2: 2014 Dodge Durango

Driver No. 2: Heath Webber; Male; 54 years old; Thompson, ND; serious injuries

Restraints: Seatbelted; airbags deployed

NARRATIVE: The GMC and Dodge were southbound on Interstate 29 in the left lane of travel. For an unknown reason, the GMC, driven by Kemp, was traveling well below the posted speed limit. The Dodge struck the rear-end of the GMC. The GMC came to rest in the median. The Dodge came to rest across both southbound lanes of the interstate. Both drivers were transported to Altru Hospital in Grand Forks with serious injuries. Mr. Kemp passed away from injuries sustained.

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



For more information, contact:

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