

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

Fatality Crash Nelson County Highway 32

What: Fatality

Where: Highway 32 mile marker 151 about 6 miles south of Petersburg, North Dakota

When: September 14, 2023, at 3:45 pm

Road Conditions: Good

Weather Conditions: Clear, Sunny

Crash Involvement: Vehicle vs Vehicle

Type of Crash: Angle

Agencies Involved: The below list of responding agencies may not be complete. We do thank everyone who responded and apologize if they were missed.

North Dakota Highway Patrol, Nelson County Sheriff's Office, Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office, North Dakota Game and Fish, Northwood Police Department, Petersburg Rural Fire, Michigan Whitman Rural Fire, Aneta Fire, Lake Region Ambulance, Spirit Lake Ambulance, Altru Grand Forks Ambulance, Devils Lake Paramedic, Valley Ambulance, Lakota Ambulance, McVille Ambulance, Larimore Ambulance, Fordville Ambulance, Park River Ambulance, Nelson County Emergency Management, Walsh County Emergency Management, Interstate Towing

Vehicle No. 1: 2022 Thomas Saf-T-Liner C2

Driver No. 1: Shari Bilden, Female, 56, Northwood, ND, injured

Restraints: Seatbelt in use

Passenger No. 1: Female, 15, Sharon, ND

Passenger No. 2: Female, 15, Larimore, ND

Passenger No. 3: Female, 16, Larimore, ND

Passenger No 4: Female, 16, Northwood, ND

Passenger No 5: Female, 15, Hatton, ND

Passenger No 6: Female, 16, Hatton, ND

Passenger No 7: Female, 14, Portland, ND

Passenger No 8: Female, 15, Northwood, ND

Passenger No 9: Female, 16, Portland, ND
Passenger No 10: Female, 15, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 11: Female, 16, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 12: Female, 15, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 13: Female, 16, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 14: Female, 15, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 15: Female, 16, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 16: Female, 17, Hatton, ND

Passenger No 17: Female, 14, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 18: Female, 16, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 19: Female, 14, Aneta, ND
Passenger No 20: Female, 14, Arvilla, ND
Passenger No 21: Female, 15, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 22: Female, 15, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 23: Female, 14, Hatton, ND
Passenger No 24: Female, 15, Aneta, ND
Passenger No 25: Female, 14, Northwood, ND
Passenger No 26: Female, 25, Coach Jana Mehus, Hatton, ND, injured

Vehicle No. 2: 2018, Dodge Pickup

Driver No. 2: Archie Gronvold, male, 68, Barton, ND, fatal

Restraints: Airbags deployed, Seatbelt in use

NARRATIVE: On September 14, 2023, at around 3:45 pm a Northwood bus was traveling north on Highway 32. The bus was carrying members of the Hatton Northwood Volleyball Team for a game in Petersburg, North Dakota. A pickup truck, driven by Archie Gronvold, was traveling west on Nelson County Road 4. While Gronvold's vehicle was crossing Highway 32 it was struck on the driver's side by the bus, driven by Bilden.

Multiple passengers on the school bus, including the driver and coach were transported to Altru Hospital in Grand Forks for injuries sustained in the crash. Gronvold, the driver of the pickup, died at the scene. None of the students suffered any life threatening injuries.

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

For more information, contact:

Lieutenant Ryan Panasuk 701-741-8163

rpanasuk@nd.gov

