

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | September 17, 2023

**UPDATE: Rolette County Two-Vehicle Fatal Crash**

**What:** Fatality

**Where:** Intersection of BIA Roads 8 and 11, approximately 5 miles west of Belcourt, ND

**When:** 09/16/2023 at 9:01 PM CDT

**Road Conditions:** Good

**Weather Conditions:** Clear

**Crash Involvement:** Two-vehicle

**Type of Crash:** Right Angle

**Agencies Involved:** Bureau of Indian Affairs Turtle Mountain Agency, Belcourt Police Department, Rolette County Sheriff's Office, Belcourt Fire & Rescue, and Belcourt Ambulance Service

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2014 Chevrolet Impala

**Driver No. 1:** Edward Roy Thomas; Male; 70 years old; Belcourt, ND; fatal injuries

**Restraints:** No seatbelt, airbags deployed

**Vehicle No. 2:** 2011 International Bus

**Driver No. 2:** Cole Brien; Male; 20 years old; Belcourt, ND; minor injuries

**Restraints:** Seatbelt

**NARRATIVE:** The Chevrolet, driven by Thomas, was westbound on BIA Road 8, en route to an unknown location. The International, driven by Brien, was southbound on BIA Road 11, en route from rural Belcourt to the Sky Dancer Hotel & Casino. The Chevrolet disregarded the stop sign regulated intersection and struck the International. Both vehicles left the roadway, entered the southwest ditch, rolled, and came to rest facing northeast. The driver of the International was transported to the Quentin N. Burdick Memorial Hospital in Belcourt. The driver of the Chevrolet was pronounced deceased on scene.



**For more information, contact:**

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