

NEWS RELEASE



RUSSEL BURGER, SHERIFF
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CASE NUMBER: 07-4503

DATE / TIME OF INCIDENT: 05-27-07 4:02 pm

DATE / TIME OF RELEASE: 05-27-07 8:28 pm

NATURE OF STORY: Fatal Traffic Crash

INCIDENT LOCATION: Shotgun Creek Area (200 Spur Road, BLM)

INVOLVED:

Deceased:	Stewart, Rodney Duane 08-08-67 Eugene, OR
Driver:	Metzler, Robert Frances 12-25-63 Springfield, Oregon
Passenger:	Kessell, Crystal Kay 06-26-83 Springfield, Oregon

DETAILS: On 05-27-07 at approximately 4:02 p.m., the Lane County Sheriff's Office received a call of a pickup truck vs. motorcycle crash in the Shotgun Creek area of Marcola. The incident occurred on the 200 Spur Road of BLM property in the Shotgun Creek area. The involved vehicles were traveling in the opposite direction of each other when they rounded a corner at the same time and crashed. First Responders arrived on scene and determined the driver of the motorcycle, Rodney Stewart, was deceased. It was initially reported to 9-1-1 that the second vehicle, driven by Robert Metzler, had left the scene of the accident. Metzler was later contacted by Springfield Police and Lane County Sheriff's Deputies. Further investigation revealed that a passenger in Metzler's vehicle, Crystal Kessell, attempted to call 9-1-1 on a cell phone but was unable to get phone service due to the remote location of the accident. Alcohol was not a factor in the crash. Metzler and Kessell were not injured in the crash. The Lane County Traffic Safety Team is continuing to investigate the cause of the crash.

For additional information contact: Lt. Randy Smith

Prepared by: Sgt. Rene Stone