

NEWS RELEASE



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CASE NUMBER: 09-5501

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 07-17-09 / 1:35 PM

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 07-27-09 / 6:30 PM

NATURE OF STORY: FATAL TRAFFIC CRASH

VICTIM: James Earl Moon, 48 – Formerly of Oakridge

INVOLVED: Richard A. Dicken, 60 – of Eugene

DETAILS: On July 17, 2009, at approximately 1:40 PM, Lane County Sheriff's deputies and other emergency responders were dispatched to the area of Prairie Road, north of Beacon Road in response to a report that a bicyclist had been struck by a vehicle.

Initial investigation reveals that the bicyclist, identified as James Earl Moon, had been riding his bicycle northbound on Prairie. Also northbound on Prairie was a late model pickup truck being driven by Richard A. Dickens. As Dickens overtook and attempted to pass the bicycle, the cyclist, for unknown reasons, turned left in front of Dickens's pickup. The pickup struck Moon, throwing him from the bicycle. Moon, who was not wearing a helmet, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Available information indicates that Dickens's pickup was traveling at a reasonable speed for that area. Dickens was not cited for any violation.

The area on Prairie north of Beacon was closed for approximately 2 hours while the scene was investigated. The investigation is continuing, by the Lane County Sheriff's and District Attorney's Offices.

Prepared by: Captain William Thompson