

BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Troy Heck, Sheriff
Neal Jacobson, Chief Deputy

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: 02/28/2024

AUTHORITY OF SHERIFF TROY HECK

On February 27th, 2024, the Benton County Sheriff's Office responded to the scene of a fatal vehicle crash.

At about 2:30 pm on February 27th, the Benton County Sheriff's Office received a report of a single vehicle crash that had occurred in the 15000 block of 115th St NE in Maywood Township. A witness reported that a small vehicle had just been involved in a roll over accident at this location. Arriving on the scene, deputies and firefighters observed a 2007 Kia Rondo lying on its roof in the south ditch of 115th St NE. Deputies found there were two people in the Kia Rondo, the registered owner of the vehicle, Yvette Jean Slack (age 56 of Foreston), and her son, Joseph Alexander McCullough (age 33 of Sauk Rapids). Both McCullough and Slack had sustained serious life-threatening injuries. McCullough was found to have succumb to his injuries and was declared dead at the scene. First responders worked to extricate Slack from the vehicle and provide life-saving measures to her. Slack was transported from the scene by ambulance to the St. Cloud Hospital.

Investigating deputies found evidence that, prior to the crash, the Kia Rondo had been driving eastbound on 115th St NE when it veered into the south ditch. After traveling in the south ditch for about 100 feet, the vehicle struck a driveway approach and became airborne. The vehicle traveled about 100 feet in the air before landing sideways and rolling in the ditch for about another 100 feet, ultimately coming to rest on its roof. Deputies found evidence suggesting McCullough was the driver at the time of the crash. Deputies also found evidence suggesting excessive speed and driver impairment were likely contributing factors in the crash.

The investigation into this crash is ongoing. The Benton County Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by the Foley Fire Department, North Memorial Ambulance, and the Minnesota State Patrol.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Troy Heck".

Troy Heck
Benton County Sheriff

