



Rodger K. Boardman
Undersheriff

Sheriff Stan W. Burchardt
HILLSDALE COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE

165 W Fayette Street Hillsdale, Mi 49242 517-437-7317

PERSONAL INJURY CRASH INVESTIGATION

March 30, 2016

At approximately 8:05pm on Wednesday March 30, 2016, deputies from the Hillsdale County Sheriffs Department were dispatched by 911 to a crash on Mechanic Rd. west of N. Bunn Rd. in Hillsdale Township. Upon investigation it was determined that a passenger vehicle and compact tractor were involved in this accident.

According to accident investigators, it was determined that a Kubota tractor was being operated by Phillip Wesley Bowers Sr., 71, of 4330 Mechanic Rd., Hillsdale, MI, was northbound backing up crossing the roadway pulling a log. A west bound 2008 Lincoln passenger car, was being operated by Kayla Marie Mapes 25, of 4301 E. Reading Rd. Osseo, MI. Ms. Mapes observed the tractors rear flashing lights, she swerved left to avoid the tractor and struck the log. The vehicle then made contact with the tractor which spun around and overturned ejecting Bowers off the tractor.

Phillip Wesley Bowers was transported by Reading Emergency unit to Hillsdale Hospital. Bowers was later transferred by Samaritan Ambulance of Fort Wayne to Toledo Hospital, where he is in critical condition. Mapes declined treatment at the scene by members of the Reading Emergency Unit.

It was determined that Mapes utilized a seatbelt, Bowers did not. The accident remains under investigation at this time. Deputies were assisted at the scene by members of the Hillsdale Twp Fire Department, Hillsdale City Police Department and Reading Emergency unit.

-- Sheriff Stan W. Burchardt/rb

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT

“To protect and serve all residents of Hillsdale County by preventing unlawful activities”

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