



OFFICE OF
Steve Boyer

KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF

614 DIVISION ST. MS-37 • PORT ORCHARD, WASHINGTON 98366 • (360) 337-5698 • FAX 337-4923

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Critical injury crash in Central Kitsap

Silverdale, Wash. -- A 16 year-old boy is in critical condition at Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, following a late night single motor vehicle crash in East Bremerton.

Kitsap County Sheriff's traffic deputies are investigating the crash which occurred just before 11:30 p.m., Tuesday, in the 7000 block of Old Military Road NE, at NE Regal Court. Sheriff's patrol and traffic deputies, along with engine and medic units from Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue, responded. First units were on-scene at 11:32 p.m.

Upon arrival emergency responders found a 2002 Mazda Protege 4-door upside down, with the 16 year-old front seat passenger pinned under the vehicle. Fire crews used heavy rescue equipment to extricate the boy. He was transported to the helipad at Harrison Medical Center, Silverdale, for further transport by Airlift Northwest helicopter to Seattle.

Three other occupants of the vehicle, a 15 year-old boy (driver), a 16 year-old girl (passenger) and a 17 year-old boy (passenger), sustained non life-threatening injuries. They were transported to Harrison Medical Center, Bremerton, for further evaluation and treatment.

The four occupants of the Mazda are listed as being from East Bremerton.

Although the investigation into the crash is in its early stages, a preliminary analysis by traffic investigators indicates that the Mazda was traveling southbound on Old Military Road. Road conditions were wet from rain.

The young driver appeared to have lost control of the vehicle and overcorrected to the left. The car crossed the northbound lane of travel and careened off of the roadway shoulder and over an embankment.

The Mazda then crashed through a wood perimeter fence at the rear (west side) of residential property on Regal Court, continued across the back yard and crashed through the same fence on the south side of the property. The vehicle rolled and then struck a tree in an adjacent yard, stopping the vehicle's momentum.

The 16 year-old (front seat) passenger was partially ejected during the crash. Investigators believe that he was not using a seatbelt.

Excessive vehicle speed appears to be a primary factor in the cause of the crash. The consumption of alcoholic intoxicants by vehicle occupants does not appear to be a factor.

The investigation continues.

Anyone who may have information about this crash is asked to contact Deputy Rick Cowell, sheriff's traffic unit, at (360) 337-4634.

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