



OFFICE OF  
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# KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF

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For immediate release:  
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Sunday, Nov. 25, 2007

## **One dead, one airlifted following collision in Suquamish**

**Suquamish, Wash.** -- A 43 year-old female passenger was declared dead at the scene of a single vehicle collision last night.

The driver, a 41 year-old Poulsbo man, was airlifted to Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, with unspecified injuries.

The collision was reported at 9:59 p.m., Saturday (Nov. 24), in the 20000 block of Columbia Street NE, on the Port Madison – Suquamish Tribal Reservation, between Poulsbo and Bainbridge Island.

The vehicle, a 2007 Mercedes 4-door sedan, was totaled.

Kitsap County Sheriff's patrol and traffic deputies, along with engine and medic units from North Kitsap Fire & Rescue and patrol units from Suquamish (tribal) Police Department, responded to the crash with first units arriving at 10:03 p.m.

Although the investigation into the collision is in its early stages, a preliminary analysis indicates that the Mercedes was traveling northbound on Columbia Street, leaving Suquamish, when the driver failed to negotiate a curve to the left. The vehicle left the roadway and struck an Alder tree at the right front fender of the car. The female passenger was ejected. The Mercedes was totaled.

Public release of the identity of the deceased woman is being withheld pending notification of family. The Kitsap County Coroner will make a determination as to cause and manner of death.

Sheriff's traffic investigators believe that excessive vehicle speed, along with the ingestion of alcoholic intoxicants by the driver, were primary contributing factors in the cause of the crash. The female passenger was not wearing a seatbelt.

The investigation continues. Persons who may have witnessed the collision, or who may have information about the crash, are asked to contact Deputy Mike Shannon, sheriff's traffic unit, at (360) 337-4634.

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