

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Date: March 22, 2017

Subject: Automobile vs. two motorcycles involving two fatalities in Silt, CO.

Associated Press Release: None

Identity of Deceased: Motorcyclist: Nathan Russo, 22 years old, Rifle, CO.

Motorcyclist: Eduardo Medrano, 21 years old, Rifle, CO.

On Monday March 20, 2017 at approximately 1917 hours the Silt Police Department and Garfield County Coroner's Office were dispatched to the intersection of Main Street (Hwy 6) & 1st Street in the city limits of Silt, CO for a death investigation involving two motorcycles and a Ford Explorer. Each motorcycle had one occupant/operator. One motorcyclist was pronounced dead on scene by coroner investigators. Another motorcyclist was transported to Grand River Hospital in Rifle, CO and later flown to St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Junction where he was pronounced brain dead on March 21, 2017 (Cardiovascular death is expected to occur sometime on 3/22/17 or 3/23/17 after organ donation) Neither motorcyclist was wearing a helmet. The driver of the Ford Explorer was not transported and was reported to be uninjured.

The motorcyclist who died on scene has been identified as Nathan Russo, 22 years old, a resident of Rifle, CO. On March 22, 2017 an autopsy was performed and showed that Nathan's cause of death is blunt force injuries. Nathan's manner of death is investigated as an accident.

The motorcyclist who died at St. Mary's Hospital has been identified as Eduardo Medrano, 21 years old, a resident of Rifle, CO. Eduardo's manner of death is investigated as an accident and his cause of death is attributed to blunt force injuries of the head.

Silt Police Officers are investigating the motor vehicle crash and the investigation is active. No new information will be released regarding the details of the crash until after the investigation is complete.

Impairment is not being considered as a factor in this fatal crash.

Respectfully,

Sergeant Mike Kite

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