



Garfield County Coroner's Office

Robert M. Glassmire
Coroner

PRESS RELEASE

Date: June 15, 2017 1:30pm

Subject: June 14, 2017 Motorcycle fatality in Battlement Mesa, Parachute, CO

Identity of Deceased: Nicholas Opanasenko, 43 year old male, resident of Parachute, CO.

On June 14, 2017 at approximately 12:20pm the Garfield County Coroner's Office was dispatched to a death investigation on West Battlement Parkway near River Bluff Rd. in the unincorporated community of Battlement Mesa, CO.

Investigators learned that a motorcyclist was witnessed travelling at high speeds on West Battlement Parkway. Witnesses reported that the motorcyclist lost control, was ejected from the motorcycle, and landed about 10-15 feet away after striking a light post.

Coroner's Office investigators identified the decedent as 43 year old male Nicholas Opanasenko. Although Mr. Opanasenko held a Wyoming driver's license, he lived with his mother in the Battlement Mesa/Parachute, CO area for some time.

An autopsy is scheduled with the Coroner's Office contract forensic pathologist for Friday June 16, 2017. The manner of death is being investigated as an accident. High speeds and alcohol use are also being considered as other significant conditions to the cause of death.

Respectfully,

Robert M. Glassmire
Garfield County Coroner