



Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Neil, Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE



INJURY TRAFFIC CRASH IN SYMMES TOWNSHIP

SYMMES TOWNSHIP, MAY 16, 2015 – Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil reports a five vehicle crash, including a truck pulling a boat, on southbound I.R. 71. The crash occurred near the 19.6 mile post, in Symmes Township, on May 16, 2015 at 3:55pm.

A 1998 Nissan Pathfinder, operated by Joshua Mathias, M/21 of Loveland, Ohio and a 2000 Toyota Sienna operated by Nicole Steckler, F/48 of Loveland, Ohio, were traveling south on the entrance ramp from Fields Ertel Rd to I.R. 71. As both units continued on the ramp, a collision occurred between the 1998 Nissan and the 2000 Toyota, which caused both vehicles to travel across the southbound lanes of I.R. 71, in an easterly direction.

At this point, the Nissan Pathfinder struck a boat which was being pulled behind a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado, operated by Brian Gabbard, M/49 of Lebanon, Ohio, in the center through lane of I.R. 71.

After colliding with the boat and trailer, the Nissan Pathfinder continued its course and was struck by a 2013 Toyota Venza, being operated by Shannon Schmit, F/42 of Ft. Knox, Kentucky, which was traveling in the left through lane of I.R. 71.

After colliding with the Nissan Pathfinder, the 2000 Toyota Sienna traveled across the southbound lanes of I.R. 71 and was struck by a 2014 Isuzu box truck, which was being operated by Lamore Askew, M/38 of Cincinnati, Ohio, in the right through lane on I.R. 71

Ms. Steckler, the driver of the Toyota Sienna was entrapped for approximately twenty minutes, before being mechanically extricated by Loveland-Symmes Fire and E.M.S. Ms. Steckler and the passenger from her vehicle were transported to Bethesda North Hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

Occupants from the Toyota Venza were transported by Loveland-Symmes Fire and E.M.S to Bethesda North Hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

Occupants of the Nissan Pathfinder and the Isuzu box truck were treated on scene by Loveland-Symmes Fire and E.M.S for minor injuries.

MEDIA CONTACT: MIKE ROBISON

Regular Business Hours: M - F 8 am - 4 pm, mrobison@sheriff.hamilton-co.org Office (513) 946-6428

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All occupants were utilizing their seatbelts at the time of crash. Drugs and/or alcohol were not a factor in this crash.

I.R 71 was down to one lane of travel in the southbound direction for approximately 1.5 hours.

The crash still remains under investigation by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Traffic Safety Unit. Any witnesses to the crash are asked to call the Sheriff's Traffic Safety Unit at (513) 825-1500.