



Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Neil, Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE



MOTORCYCLIST STRUCK IN WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP

Whitewater Township, October 29, 2016 – Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil reports a fatal traffic crash which occurred on I.R. 74 near milepost 7, in Whitewater Township, on October 29, 2016 at 3:10 a.m.

A 2011 Chevrolet pickup operated by Brandon Bernhardt, age 21, of Sunman, IN was traveling eastbound on I.R. 74 in the right lane of travel. Mr. Bernhardt's vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed. Just east of milepost 7, Mr. Bernhardt's vehicle struck the rear of a 1994 Honda motorcycle. The motorcycle was being operated by James Lamb, age 55, of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Lamb was ejected from his motorcycle as a result of the collision. Mr. Bernhardt's vehicle continued eastbound on I.R. 74, dragging Mr. Lamb's motorcycle, for approximately .8 miles until it ran off the right side of the road and came to rest along a guardrail. Mr. Bernhardt then fled on foot. At 4:04 a.m. a K9 unit located him hiding in a wooded area approximately 75 feet from his vehicle.

Mr. Lamb sustained fatal injuries as a result of the crash. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Mr. Bernhardt was not injured.

Speed and alcohol were factors in the crash.

Mr. Bernhardt has been charged with Aggravated Vehicular Homicide and leaving the scene of a fatal crash, both second degree felonies.

MEDIA CONTACT: MIKE ROBISON

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