



Umatilla County Sheriff's Office
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*****Media Alert*****

For Immediate Release

Date: Sunday, October 11, 2009	Contact Information: Under Sheriff Terry Rowan
Place: Hermiston, OR	541-966-3630
News Release No: #2009-21	

At about 4:00pm, on Sunday, October 11, 2009, Umatilla County 9-1-1 center received a reported head on motor vehicle crash on Old River Road, north of Bensel Road and south of the City of Umatilla. As Law Enforcement officers from Umatilla Police Department and Oregon State Police arrived on Scene, it was determined Skip Harmon (42yoa) of Hermiston was deceased at the scene.

Deputies from Umatilla County Sheriff's Office responded to investigate the crash. Through evidence and statements from witnesses the following are preliminary findings. Harmon was driving a 1997 Ford F-350 pickup traveling Southbound on Old River Road, when Luiz Fernando Barron-Gonzalez (22yoa, also of Hermiston), Northbound, crossed over the centerline in a 2001 Chevrolet S-10 pickup and struck Harmon's vehicle.

Barron-Gonzales was taken to Good Shepherd Hospital and prepared to be life flighted to Portland. While enroute via life flight Barron-Gonzales succumbed to his injuries in flight.

Harmons' wife and daughter were also in the vehicle. They were transported to Good Shepherd Hospital with injuries. Barron-Gonzales was alone in his vehicle.

The cause of the accident has not been determined at this time, but Umatilla County Sheriff's Office is still investigating.

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