

TILLAMOOK

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Authorities seek information on hit-and-run driver

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Tillamook Fire Department personnel work at extrication Saturday night on SR 6 from a vehicle driven by Joshua Dreweck of Forest Grove. Courtesy photo

TILLAMOOK - The Oregon State Police are seeking information regarding the driver and any other occupants of a van found abandoned in Tillamook following a serious-injury, hit-and-run crash late Saturday night on SR 6 just east of Tillamook. Investigators think the van was driven from the Portland area at the time of the crash.

OSP Sgt. Lane Hendrickson said that on March 22 at about 11:30 p.m., Oregon State Police and Tillamook-area police and fire agencies responded to a three-vehicle crash on SR 6 near MP 1. The crash closed the highway for several hours.

Police said a 2003 Pontiac Vibe driven by Steven Kershaw, 55, of Tillamook, was westbound on SR 6 near MP 1 when it was rear-ended by a green 1995 Ford Windstar van. The collision forced the Pontiac into the eastbound lane where it hit a 2005 Chevrolet four-door driven by Joshua Dreweck, 23, of Forest Grove. The green Ford Windstar van initially stopped but then fled the scene.

About 90 minutes after the crash, the Ford Windstar van was found unoccupied in Tillamook near the courthouse, about a mile from the crash scene. Investigators said the van, which was reportedly seen by the Kershaws before the crash going west several miles east of Tillamook, had been sold by the previous owner to an unknown person.

Steven Kershaw sustained minor injuries and was transported to Tillamook County General Hospital. His wife, Nancy Kershaw, 51, was seriously injured and transported to a Portland-area hospital, where she was listed in fair condition on Monday. His daughter, Alyssa Kershaw, 19, sustained minor injuries and was transported to Tillamook County General Hospital.

Joshua Dreweck was critically injured and transported to a Portland-area hospital, where he was listed in good condition on Monday. His passengers, Jason Dreweck, 23, of Forest Grove, was seriously injured; Grady Fox, 20, of Forest Grove, received minor injuries; and, Ashley Lamini, 21, of Beaverton, received serious injuries. All were transported to Tillamook County General Hospital by ambulance.

Steven and Alyssa Kershaw and the passengers in Dreweck's car were released in good condition from Tillamook County General Hospital early Sunday morning.

Police said some witnesses came forward. However, investigators think there were others who may have witnessed the crash, came upon the crash scene shortly after it happened, or may have seen the occupants of the van when they abandoned it in Tillamook. Anyone with information is asked to call OSP Northern Command Center dispatch at (800) 452-7888.

OSP troopers from the Tillamook worksite were still investigating the crash on Monday. The Tillamook Police Department, Tillamook County Sheriff's Office, Tillamook Fire Department and the Oregon Department of Transportation assisted at the scene.

Steven Kershaw's call to 9-1-1 reporting the van's driver driving erratically will be uploaded soon. The crash can be heard at the end of the tape.

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