

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Woman Dies Following Crash on Highway Near Cornelius

January 14, 2020

On Tuesday, January 14, 2020, just before 7:00 a.m., Washington County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a report of a crash involving a vehicle and a pedestrian on SW Tualatin Valley Highway and NW 341<sup>st</sup> Ave. A woman driving a 2005 gray Mazda minivan was headed westbound on the highway when the vehicle hit a woman causing very serious injuries.

Deputies serving the City of Cornelius and the Cornelius Fire Department responded and performed live-saving measures on the 51-year-old woman from Hillsboro, but she died later at the hospital. She has been identified as Leslie Schmadeke.

The conditions at the time of the crash were dark and foggy, so poor visibility was likely a factor in this crash. There are no streetlights on this stretch of highway. The victim was also dressed in dark clothing.

The driver of the Mazda remained on scene and cooperated with deputies during the crash investigation. No crime is suspected of being committed at this time.

The Sheriff's Office would like to remind people that it's very dangerous to cross dark highways while wearing dark clothing. Please consider wearing bright, reflective clothing or carrying a flashing light when out walking along busy roads in the dark.

If anyone who was in this area at approximately 7:00 a.m. this morning who witnessed this crash, please call the Washington County Sheriff's Office at 503-846-2700.

The Washington County [Crash Analysis Reconstruction Team](#) (CART) is assisting in this investigation. CART is a multi-agency team of specially trained law enforcement officers from the Sheriff's Office and the Beaverton, Hillsboro, Tigard, and Tualatin Police Departments. The Washington County District Attorney's Office has also assigned Deputy District Attorneys to the team.



**SHERIFF**  
WASHINGTON COUNTY

**MEDIA CONTACT: 503-209-5613**

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