



# WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service  
Sheriff Pat Garrett

## PRESS RELEASE

Case#: 15-500147

### Head-On Crash Leaves Woman Dead near Cornelius

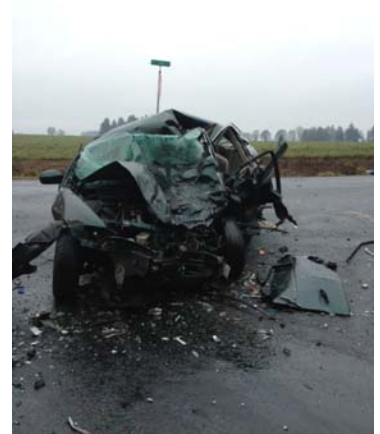
January 4, 2015 -- Today, a 22-year-old Hillsboro woman was killed when her car was struck head-on by an SUV near Cornelius. The two occupants of the SUV were transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

On Sunday, January 04, 2015, at about 10:35 a.m., deputies responded to a head-on collision on SW Susbauer Road near SW Long Road, in unincorporated Washington County north of the City of Cornelius.

Deputies arrived and determined that one person was deceased at the scene and two people were being transported to an area hospital. The Washington County Crash Reconstruction Team (CART) responded to the scene to investigate the crash.



Based on preliminary witness statements and evidence at the scene, investigators determined that a 1999 Honda Accord, driven by 22-year-old Maria Lara Martinez of Hillsboro, was southbound on SW Susbauer Rd. She was struck head-on by a 2006 Mercedes Benz ML500 SUV, driven by 63-year-old Adam Buchalski of Cornelius. Mr. Buchalski was traveling northbound in the southbound lane while passing another vehicle in a no-passing zone.



Mr. Buchalski and his passenger, 51-year-old Paulina Lea of Cornelius, were transported to Emanuel Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. CART will continue to investigate this incident to determine if there are any criminal factors that contributed to Ms. Martinez' death. No one has been

charged at this time.