



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service
Sheriff Pat Garrett

PRESS RELEASE

Case #15-500254

Man Dies in Crash after Passing in No-Passing Zone

January 6, 2015—Sheriff's Deputies responded to an early morning crash where a vehicle left the roadway and rolled after passing another vehicle. The vehicle was occupied only by the driver who did not survive his injuries. There were no other injuries in this crash.

On January 6, 2015, at 7:55 a.m., Washington County Sheriff's Deputies were called to SW Bald Peak Road, west of SW Laurel Road, in the community of Bald Peak concerning a single vehicle crash. It was reported the lone occupant in the crashed vehicle was unresponsive.



Sheriff's Deputies arrived within three minutes and discovered a 1999 Lexus RX350 off the right side of SW Bald Peak Road. Deputies determined that the Lexus had been eastbound on SW Bald Peak Road, second in a line of five vehicles, when it passed a Honda Odyssey in a No Passing zone. Witnesses and evidence indicated that the Lexus clipped the front of the Honda as it pulled back into the eastbound travel lane. The Lexus lost control, spun sideways, left the roadway, struck a dirt embankment

and went airborne as it rolled over, eventually coming to rest on a tree.

Sheriff's Deputies found that Louis John Kern, 68, from Hillsboro was the driver of the Lexus. Louis Kern did not survive the crash and was pronounced deceased at the scene. There were no other injuries in the crash.

Bald Peak Road was closed until 11:30 a.m. to gather evidence and document the scene. The Washington County Crash Analysis Reconstruction Team assisted with the investigation.