COPY

HYDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

*PO Box 521 * 412 Commercial Ave. SE * Highmore, SD 57345*
Phone: (605) 852-2513 Fax: (605) 852-3178
Sheriff Mike Volek

Date:
September 12, 2020

Suspect Information:
Jason Ravnsborg

Location:
Highway 14 – apx ¼ mi west Highmore SD

Witnesses:
Jason Ravnsborg
Tim Bormann
Victor Nemec
Nathen Brady
Hyde County Volunteer Fire Dept.
Jim Stephenson – SD DOT
(Agency Assist -South Dakota Highway Patrol / DCI)

On September 12th at approximately 10:30 pm, I received a call of an accident on Highway 14 west of Highmore, SD. When I arrived, there was a red 2011 ford Taurus license plate no.G00027 that had damage to the front right corner of the car and the windshield was broke out. I observed the driver and recognized him as Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg. Ravnsborg told me that he hit something and he walked along the road but didn't see anything in the ditch. Then we walked along the road together looking for a deer or something in the ditch and didn't see anything. It was very dark and it was difficult to see.

Ravnsborg then got into the sheriff vehicle with me and I called dispatch to get a tow truck. I requested his insurance and registration. Ravnsborg and I visited in the vehicle for about ten minutes. Ravnsborg said he was heading back to Pierre from a fundraiser in Redfield, SD. During our walk on the road and conversation I observed no sign of impairment and did not smell any alcohol on him.

I then drove with Ravnsborg to my house about half a mile from the scene. I knew it might take more than an hour for the tow truck to come. I let him take my car home to Pierre instead of him waiting for a tow truck. Ravnsborg left my place in my personal Ford Edge and I followed him west on Hwy 14. I realized he had his car keys that the tow truck driver needed and turned on my red lights to stop him about a half mile west of his car. Ravnsborg pulled over my car and I took Ravnsborg's keys from him.

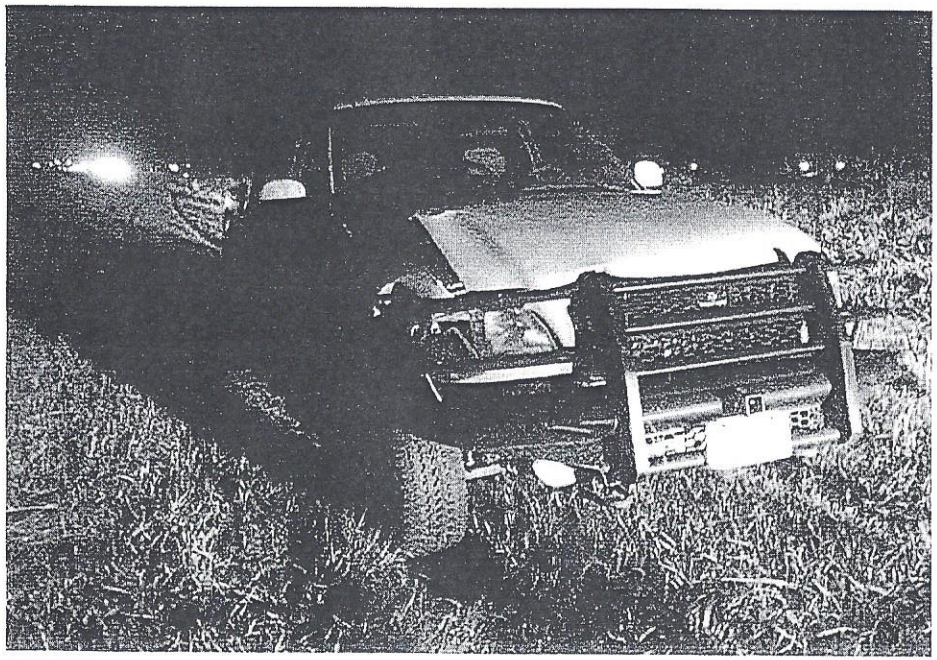
After getting the keys I saw a white Ford F150 in the north ditch facing west. I checked the pickup and saw that the front grill guard was pushed up into the grill of the truck and I checked the area around it but no one was there. The accident was never reported. The registration came back to Harlan Reed of Highmore, SD. I called Reed and he told me he had sold the pickup but could not think of the buyer's name. I left the white pickup and returned to Ravnsborg's car. I waited at Ravnsborg's vehicle until the tow truck arrived.

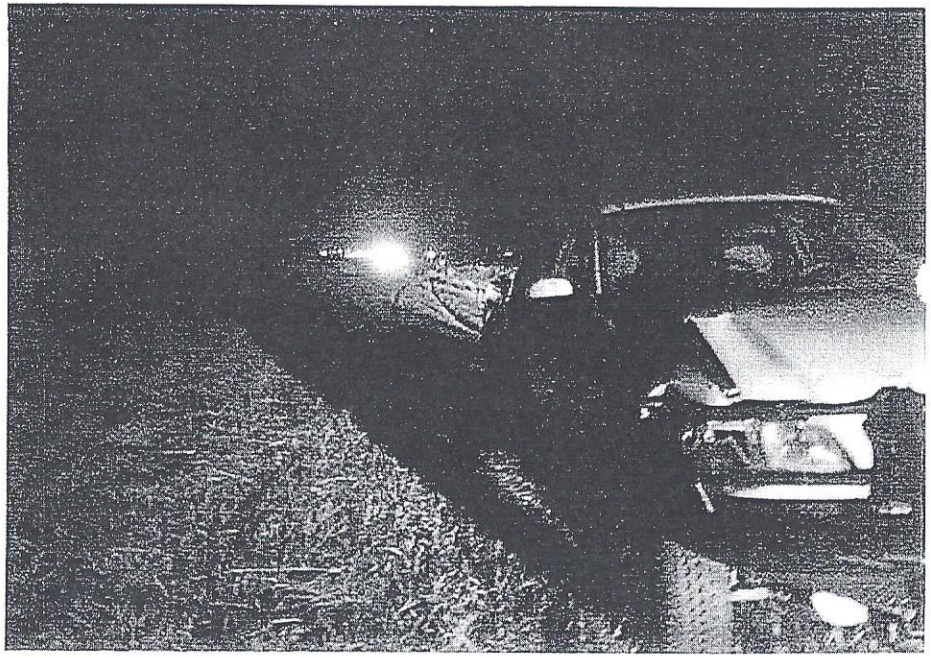
While waiting for the tow truck I saw something glowing in the grass about 50 yards east of Ravnsborg's car. I walked the highway and ditch with a flashlight. The glow was something that looked like a light that had come off of Ravnsborg's car still lit. I didn't see anything related to the accident except the light. Then I returned to my car. The tow truck arrived about an hour later and I left the scene.

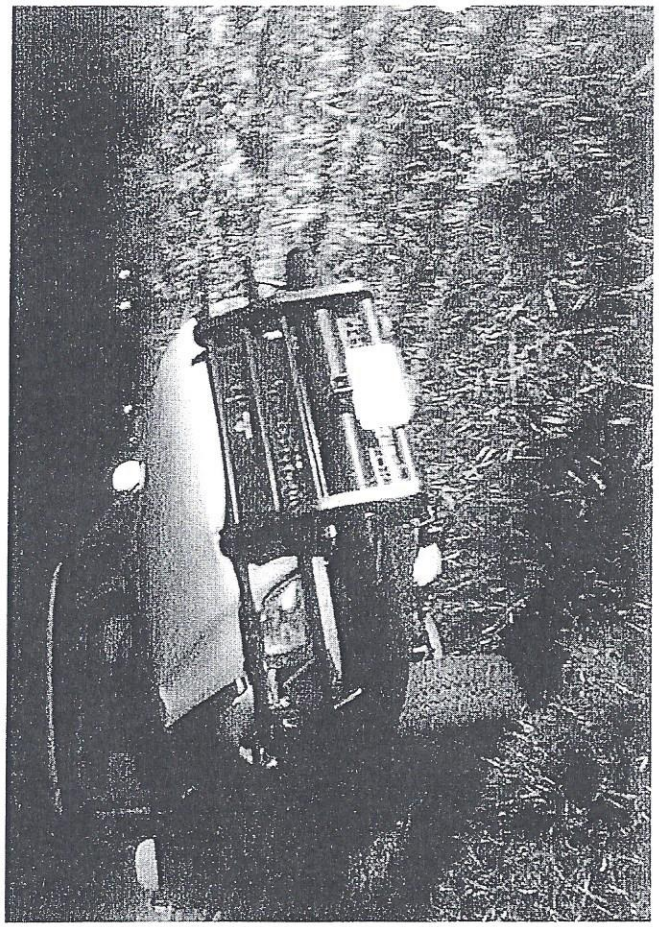
The next day at approximately 8:00 am Tim Bormann and Ravnsborg came to my home to bring back my car. I asked Ravnsborg how it was going, and said," not very good." Ravnsborg told me that what he hit last night was a person. He had just come from the scene. I could tell was very emotionally upset. Bormann and Ravnsborg led me back to the accident took place. Then he showed me where the body was in the road ditch in the grass. I told Ravnsborg to write a statement. I told Bormann to stay with him. I told Bormann and Ravnsborg that I was going to call DCI and Highway Patrol and they left the scene. I called dispatch to request assistance from Highway Patrol and DCI. DCI agent Hank Prim contacted me and told me to block the area of the accident until Highway Patrol and DCI arrived to take over.

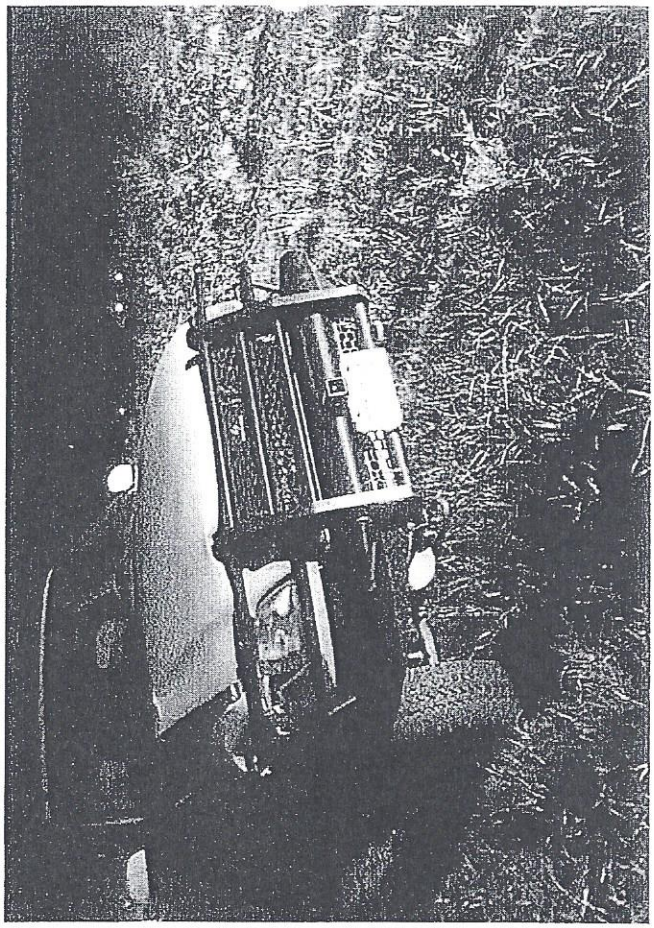
I called SD DOT worker Jim Stephenson of Highmore for road cones. I called in the assistance of Hyde County Deputy Sheriff Nathen Brady to stop traffic in the south lane of Hwy 14 near the body. After securing the scene I received a call from Victor Nemec asking if the coned off area had anything to do with his cousin Joe. I ask for the full name of his cousin and he said "Joe Boever." Victor told me that Boever had hit a bale last night and that he had called him to take him home. Victor said he picked him up at approximately 8:30 pm and stayed with him for approximately a half an hour. Victor also stated that he didn't smell any alcohol on Boever and he didn't seem like himself as if his medication wasn't right. I told him the investigation would be taken over by a different agency. I waited for the arrival of Highway Patrol and DCI to take over.

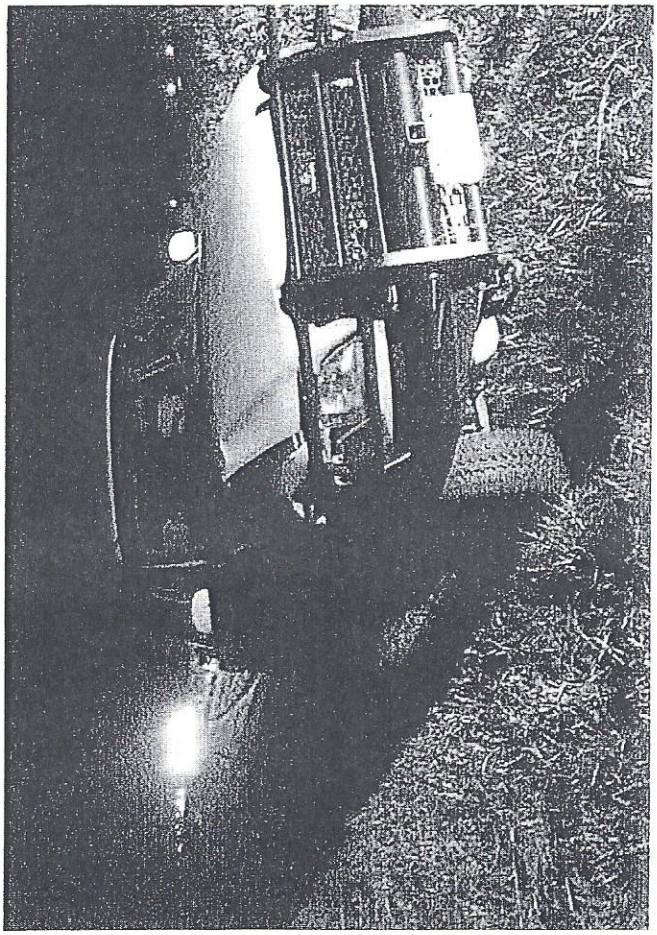
Hyde County Sheriff
Mike Volek
Mike Volek

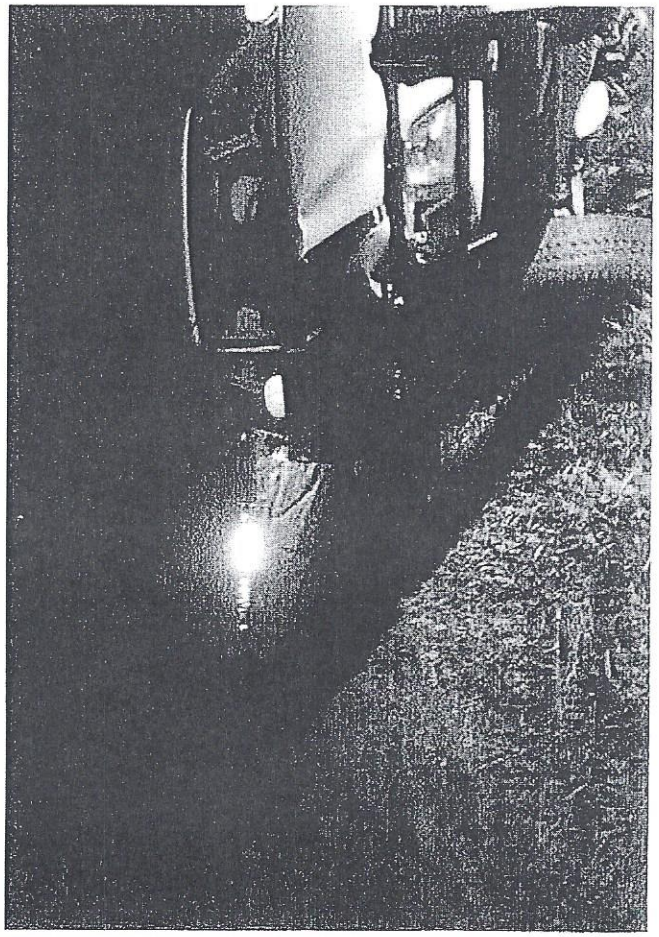


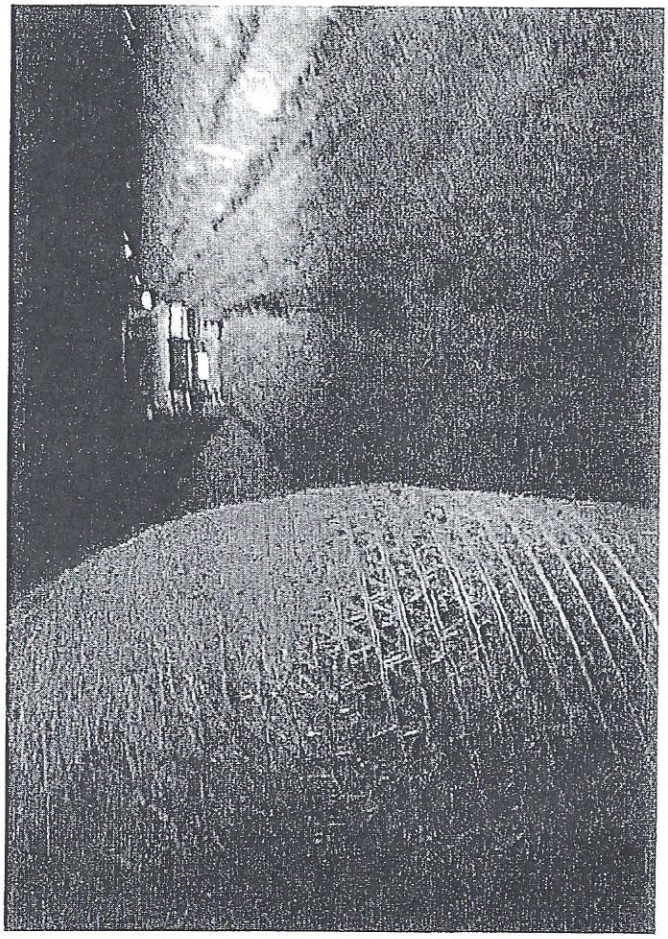


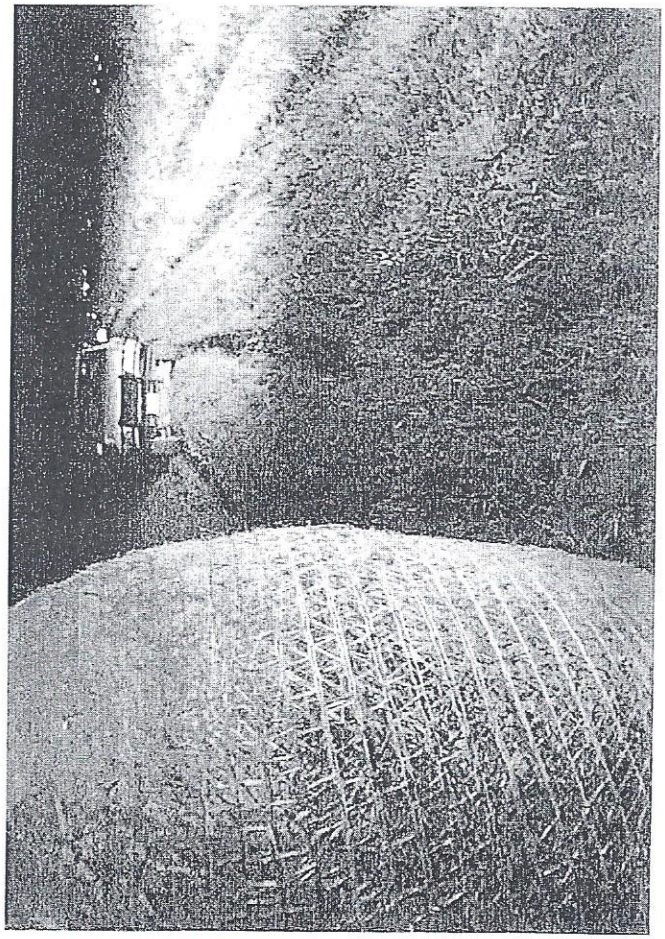












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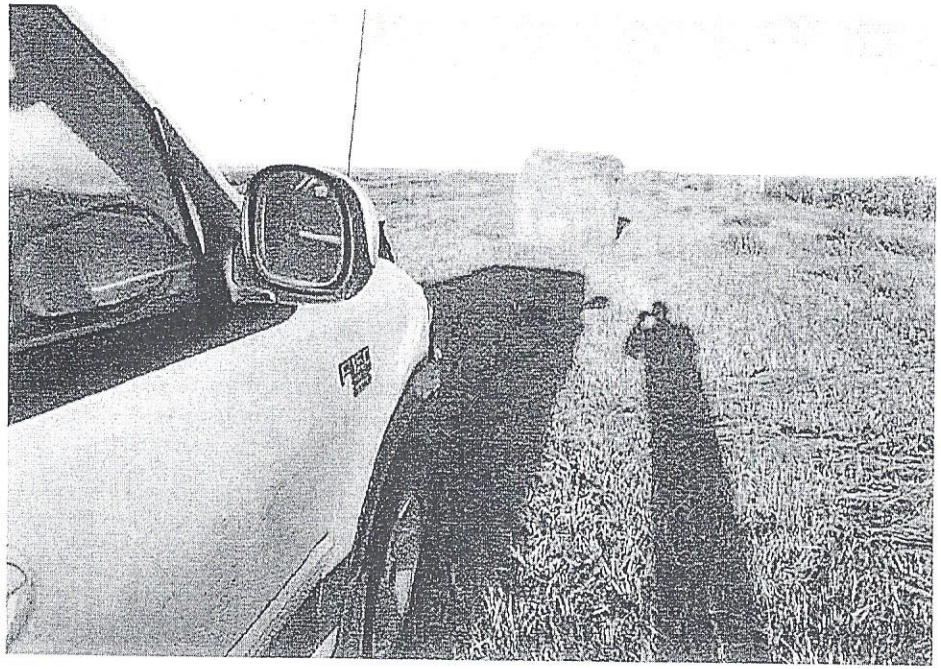

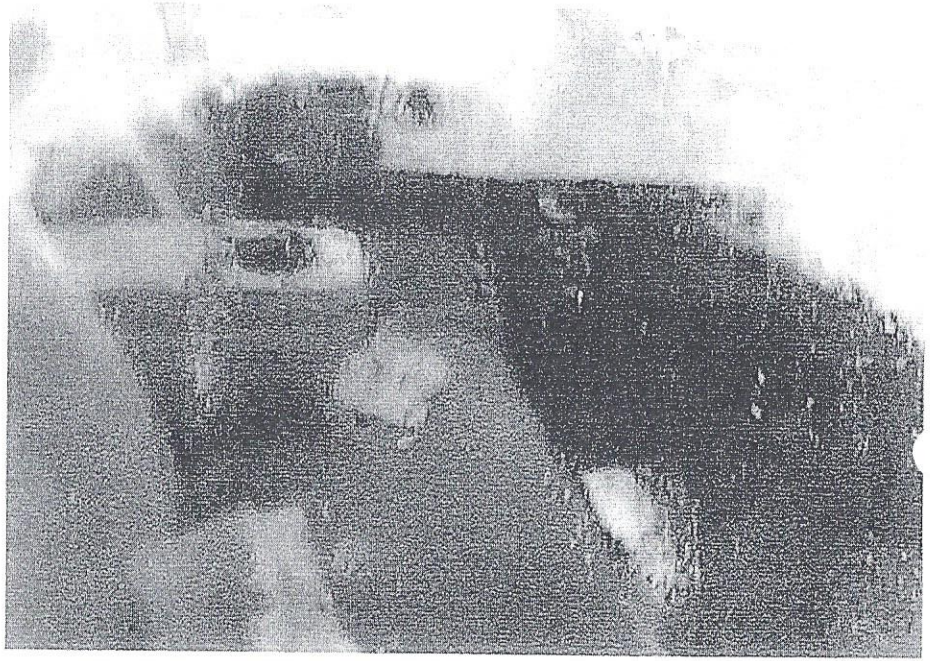

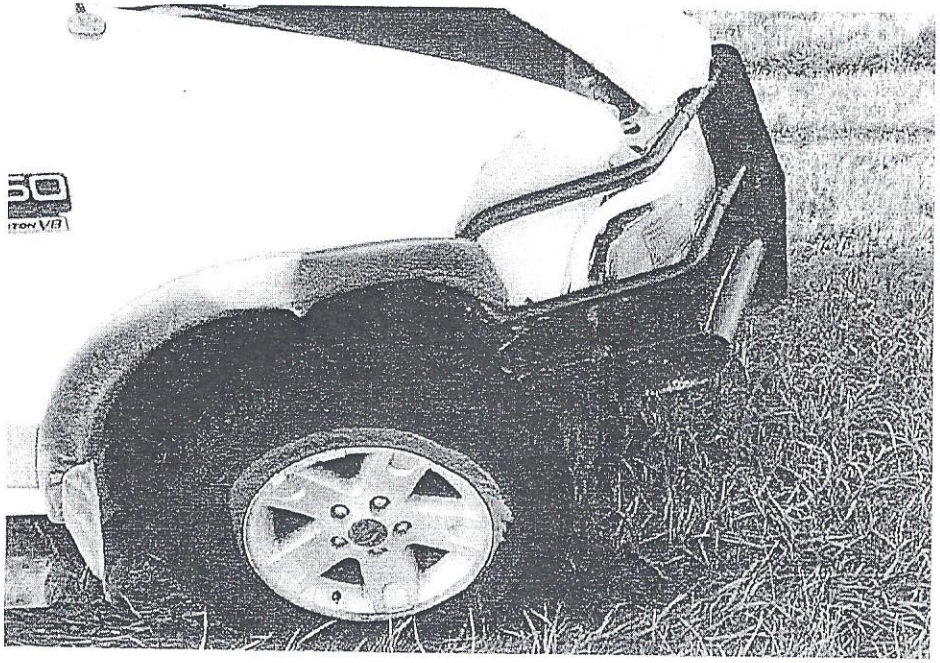

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Supplemental Report to Volek

On September 13th at 9:00 am I was called by Sheriff Mike Volek to go meet him west of Highmore on Hwy 14. I arrived there at 9:25 am. Volek had me assist with directing traffic. I started to direct traffic west side of Volek's location.

After an about an hour we had cones set up to direct traffic out of the south lane and I stopped and directed west bound traffic. I was relieved of my duty's at 2:30 pm and went home.

Hyde County Deputy Sheriff
Nathen Brady

Nathen Brady