

Release of Public Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LCSO Continues Traffic Homicide Investigation

Yesterday afternoon, at approximately 2:30 pm, a crash involving a cement mixer truck, a Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend school bus, a SUV and a van occurred on Capital Circle South East at the East Orange Avenue extension.

The preliminary investigation has revealed the cement mixer truck, driven by 23 year old Machon Andrews, was traveling southbound on Capital Circle South East, and struck a Boys and Girls Club bus, driven by 36 year old Tori Doss, which was stopped in the outside eastbound turn lane on Capital Circle South East at Orange Ave. For an unknown reason, the cement truck veered from its path, which caused it to roll over on its passenger side crushing the rear passenger compartment of the bus. The force of the crash pushed the bus forward into the rear of a Mercury van, driven by 39 year old Patti Heydenrich, which was stopped in front of the bus. The van was then pushed into the rear of a GMC Yukon, driven by 43 year old Dawn Randolph, which was stopped in front of the van. The drivers of all four vehicle received minor injuries.

As a result of the crash there was one fatality, Ronshay Dugans, an 8-year-old third-grader at Apalachee Elementary School. Twenty children received minor injuries. Six children were transported by Leon County Emergency Medical Services to local hospitals and were released a short time later.

Sheriff Larry Campbell said "The thoughts and prayers of all the first responders are with Ronshay's parents, family and friends. On behalf the Sheriff's Office, I would like to thank Leon County Emergency Medical Services, Tallahassee Fire Department, Tallahassee Police Department, Leon County Schools, Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend and American Red Cross for their vital assistance during this, tragic critical incident that claimed the life of Ronshay Dugans. I would also like to thank the staff of the Animal Hospital and Resort of SouthWood, who opened the doors of not only their business, but also opened their hearts to the children involved in this massive crash. The efforts of the staff at the Animal Hospital and Resort of SouthWood ensured a safe environment for the injured, scared and emotionally devastated children as they were treated and reunited with loved ones. This act of community service and compassion is greatly appreciated."

The Leon County Sheriff's Office is continuing its investigation into this crash, which may take several weeks to complete. As this is an open and active traffic homicide investigation, no other information will be available for release until the investigation is complete.



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