

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MEDIA RELEASE



DATE: August 12, 2015

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On Wednesday August 12th at approximately 1:00 p.m. the Eau Claire Communications Center received a traffic complaint reference to a vehicle being driven erratically on STH 85, approaching STH 37.

The complainant reported to the communication unit that a northbound vehicle bearing Minnesota registration was seen driving out their designated northbound lane of travel, speeding up and slowing down and forcing oncoming traffic to take evasive actions to avoid a collision.

The communications unit broadcast this information to all area law enforcement agencies, so that we could respond, stop the vehicle and evaluate the operator.

While police units responded, the complainant maintained contact with the communications unit to keep incoming police units abreast of the vehicles last known location.

A short time later the complainant reported to the communications unit that the vehicle was now traveling northbound on STH 37 and had struck a semi head-on, just north of the intersection of STH 37 and STH 85.

Wisconsin State Patrol and Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to the crash scene to investigate.

Based on witness statements and a preliminary evaluation of evidence at the scene, it appears that the northbound vehicle bearing Minnesota registration crossed over the center-line of STH 37 near Pioneer Ct and struck a tractor trailer unit traveling southbound.

The lone female occupant of the vehicle was significantly injured in the crash and was transported to an area hospital for treatment of those injuries. The lone male tractor trailer operator was evaluated at the scene. He was eventually transported to an area hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Alcohol and prescription medication use appear to be a factor in the crash at this time. No further details are being released at this time pending the results of the

investigation.

Eau Claire County was assisted at the scene by Township Fire, Wisconsin State Patrol, Eau Claire Fire and Rescue, I-94 Towing/Recovery, Eau Claire Police and the Eau Claire County Highway Department.