

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Motor Vehicle Accident

Date: July 26, 2008

From: Sgt Erickson

Case or Incident # 080726-013

Summary:

On July 26, 2008 at about 1430 hours, Capital City Fire and Rescue and the Juneau Police Department received a report of an excavator that rolled off the roadway and into the wet lands on Vanderbilt Hill Road. CCFR and JPD both responded.

Upon arrival a large Mustang fork lift was found on its side in the water on the Pioneer Home side of Vanderbilt Hill road. Two occupants were found trapped under the vehicle. The occupants were later determined to be a 43 year old Juneau resident and the man's 15 year old daughter.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the vehicle was being driven on the Vanderbilt Hill roadside past the fog line. The vehicle was travelling slightly on the dirt embankment. As the vehicle continued on Vanderbilt Hill road, the front tires were pulled by the soft dirt further into the ditch and the operator lost control while being pulled into the ditch. The operator appeared to attempt to correct the loss of control but was pulled further into the ditch and onto the vehicle's side. Once on its side the vehicle slid completely off the road and into the water, pinning both occupants.

CCFR personnel extricated both occupants from the vehicle and transported both to Bartlett Regional Hospital for treatment. Both occupants received significant injury due to broken glass and being pinned in water under the vehicle. The exact nature of the injuries has yet to be determined.

The vehicle was removed from the roadway by Tyler Rental personnel. Investigation continues and charges may be pending.

Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

*** END OF STATEMENT ***

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