

COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Press Release

SHERIFF DAVID P. Bartlett

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 24, 2014

Sheriff's Office Investigates Personal Injury Auto Accident

Hillsdale, NY- Columbia County Sheriff David P. Bartlett reports that on June 22 at approximately 3:53pm, Columbia County 911 dispatched Sheriff's Deputies to a two vehicle accident on State Route 23, just west of Bushnell Road in the Town of Hillsdale.

Deputies found that a 2014 Chevrolet Impala, operated by 82 year old James Dargan of West Camp NY, was traveling westbound on State Route 23 and for unknown reasons, traveled over into the eastbound lane of travel and struck a 1999 International dump truck, which was traveling eastbound. The truck was operated by 64 year old Gary Swart Sr. of Hillsdale, who was transported to Albany Medical Center for chest pain. James Dargan was taken by helicopter to Albany Medical Center for internal injuries. There were three passengers in the Dargan vehicle, 77 year old Margaret Dargan, 75 year old Anthony Semento, and 78 year old Doris Semento, who were all transported to Albany Medical Center by ambulance for neck and back injuries.

The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

Copake Rescue Squad, Greenport Rescue Squad, Northern Dutchess Paramedics, Hillsdale Fire Company, Craryville Fire Company, and Copake Fire Company all assisted at the scene.

Investigating for the Sheriff's Office are Captain John DeRocha, Investigator Mark Dunspaugh, Sergeant Eli Fieser, and Deputy Thomas Merante.