



SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF **BEN WOLFINGER**

UNDERSHERIFF **DAN MATTOS**

**Media Release
June 16, 2018**

KCSO INVESTIGATES FATAL CRASH NEAR RATHDRUM

Rathdrum, ID-On 06-16-2018 at approximately 11:48 AM, members of the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office and the Northern Lakes Fire responded to the area of W. Lancaster Rd. and N. Huetter Rd. for an injury crash.

A citizen called 911 to report a truck struck a motorcycle carrying two people in the intersection. Deputies and ambulance crews arrived on scene and transported the passenger to Kootenai Health for treatment where she was pronounced deceased upon arrival. The driver of the motorcycle was treated for minor injuries and released.

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office Traffic Investigation Team responded and currently are investigating the crash. Further details will be released as they become available.

Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff
By: Dep. Chris Fresh
Case #18-25094

*****UPDATE***
July 10, 2018**

Rathdrum Man Arrested By KCSO Traffic Team In Fatal Crash

As a result of the ongoing investigation by the KCSO Traffic Team, 40 year old, Varsel M. Jarnagin, of Rathdrum, Idaho, has been arrested for Felony Vehicular Manslaughter, based on his involvement in the June 16, 2018 crash that killed Alexa N. Mrgich, 23, of Hayden, Idaho.

Jarnagin was the driver of a 2007 GMC pickup truck that ran into the back of a motorcycle in which Mrgich was a passenger as it was stopped at the stop sign at the intersection of N. Huetter Rd. and W. Lancaster Ave.

Jarnagin was set to make a first appearance on the charge this afternoon. Jarnagin has been booked into the Kootenai County Public Safety Building over 25 times over the past 20 years, most recently for Domestic Assault and Trafficking Heroin.

The investigation into the crash is continuing. More information will be released when it comes available.

Sheriff Ben Wolfinger
By; Sgt. Ward Crawford, Traffic Sergeant

