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# 8 reported killed on Arkansas roads

by Scott Carroll, Jordan Gass-Pooré | June 13, 2015 at 2:17 a.m.



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Arkansas State Police this week reported the deaths of eight people in crashes on Arkansas roadways.

A woman died Friday in a single-vehicle crash on John Harden Drive, just south of Arkansas 5, in Cabot.

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Nikki Smith, 27, of East Liverpool, Ohio, was a passenger on a northbound Harley-Davidson motorcycle that exited the roadway about 2:40 a.m. and overturned. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver, whom state police did not identify, was taken to UAMS Medical Center in Little Rock for treatment.

On Thursday, Steven James Lear, 21, of Fayetteville was killed when the Honda motorcycle he was driving exited North Gregg Avenue in Washington County at 10:16 p.m. and struck a road sign, according to state police.

Two other people were killed Thursday in a crash in West Memphis. Charles Chad Wilcox, 22, of Texarkana and a minor, whom state police did not identify because of state law, were traveling north on Interstate 55 in a Dodge pickup. About 11:40 a.m., the pickup crashed into the back of a 2011 Volvo that had stopped due to construction.

State police did not identify the Volvo driver.

A Greenbrier man died Wednesday when he lost control of his motorcycle in Perry County after hitting a large mound in the road near a bridge. Gordon L. Calder Jr., 40, was driving his 2013 motorcycle north on Arkansas 9 at 3:50 p.m., according to the state police. Calder was pronounced dead at 5:30 p.m., the report said.

Earlier in the week, a Fountain Hill woman died Tuesday in a head-on collision between two vehicles in Drew County, according to a state police report. Jessica Nicole Greenlee, 21, was driving west on U.S. 278 in a 2011 Chevrolet when she crossed the centerline and hit another vehicle head-on. The accident occurred at 1:11 p.m., and Greenlee was pronounced dead on the scene at 2:05 p.m. Tuesday, state police reported.

According to a state police report released this week, Efran Lopez, 24, of Little Rock died from injuries suffered from a vehicle accident May 31 on South University Avenue in Little Rock.

Lopez was driving north on South University Avenue at 4:20 a.m. when his 2000 Ford ran into a ditch on the right side of the road. The vehicle rolled before coming to a stop, according to a report. It was raining and the road was wet at the time of the accident.

Also released this week was a report on an accident that occurred in Crittenden County on May 26 that resulted in the death of a youth.

A 2001 Ford Explorer traveling northbound on Interstate 55 near Marion lost control and exited the roadway to the west side. The driver of the Explorer overcorrected, causing the vehicle to re-enter the roadway and exit on the opposite side of the interstate. The vehicle then became airborne and rolled several times before coming to rest in the middle of the service road.

A minor was killed in the crash; however, because of state law, the minor's name was not released. The report also did not indicate the gender of the minor or whether the minor was a driver or passenger in the vehicle.

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