

Authority: 1949 PA 300, Sec. 257.622
Compliance: Required
Penalty: \$100 and/or 90 days

ORI: MI-3313300

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Traffic Crash Report

Complaint # 96-C 16610
File Class 9300-1
Complaint Disposition Open Closed
Reviewer

Department Name
Ingham County Sheriff Department

Crash Date Month: 10, Day: 06, Year: 96
Crash Time Military: 0115

No. of Units	Crash Type	Special Circumstances	Weather (Mark Only One)	Light (Mark Only One)	Fatal (Report All)
<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1. Single Motor Vehicle	<input type="radio"/> 1. None	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 1. Clear	<input type="radio"/> 1. Daylight	<input type="radio"/> Fatal (Report All)
<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 2. Head On	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 2. Deer	<input type="radio"/> 2. Cloudy	<input type="radio"/> 2. Dawn	<input type="radio"/> Corrected Copy
<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 3. Head On-Left Turn	<input type="radio"/> 3. School Bus	<input type="radio"/> 3. Fog/Smoke	<input type="radio"/> 3. Dusk	<input type="radio"/> Replace (Entire Report)
<input type="radio"/> 4	<input type="radio"/> 4. Angle	<input type="radio"/> 4. Hit and Run	<input type="radio"/> 4. Rain	<input type="radio"/> 4. Dark-Lighted	<input type="radio"/> Delete (Entire Report)
<input type="radio"/> 5	<input type="radio"/> 5. Rear End	<input type="radio"/> 5. Fleeing Police	<input type="radio"/> 5. Snow/Blowing Snow	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 5. Dark-Unlighted	<input type="radio"/> Non-Traffic Area
<input type="radio"/> 6	<input type="radio"/> 6. Rear End-Left Turn		<input type="radio"/> 6. Severe Wind	<input type="radio"/> 6. Other/Unknown	<input type="radio"/> ORV/Snowmobile
<input type="radio"/> 7	<input type="radio"/> 7. Rear End-Right Turn		<input type="radio"/> 7. Sleet/Hail		
<input type="radio"/> 8	<input type="radio"/> 8. Sideswipe-Same		<input type="radio"/> 8. Other/Unknown		
<input type="radio"/> 9	<input type="radio"/> 9. Sideswipe-Opposite				
<input type="radio"/> 10	<input type="radio"/> 10. Other/Unknown				

County: 33
City/Twp: 01
Traffic Control:
 1. Signal
 2. Stop Sign
 3. Yield Sign
 4. None of These

Location on:
Name: Barnes Rd
Intersection: Edgar Rd

Construction Zone (if applicable):
Type: 1. Const./Maint. 2. Utility
Lane Closed: 1. Yes 2. No
Activity: 1. On Road 2. Off Road 3. None

Relation to Roadway (Location of First Impact):
 1. On Road
 2. Median
 3. Shoulder
 4. Outside of Shoulder/Curb
 5. Gore
 6. Other/Unknown

Area:
 1. Dry
 2. Wet
 3. Icy
 4. Snowy
 5. Muddy
 6. Slushy
 7. Debris
 8. Other/Unknown
 9. Unknown

Road Condition (Mark Only One):
 1. Dry
 2. Wet
 3. Icy
 4. Snowy
 5. Muddy
 6. Slushy
 7. Debris
 8. Other/Unknown
 9. Unknown

Total Lanes: 0
Speed Limit: 0

Do Not Write or Mark On This Side of the Line

Unit Number: 1
State: MI
Driver License Number: [Redacted]
Date of Birth: [Redacted]
License Type: O CY C F M R
Sex: M F
Hazard Action: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

First Name: Paul, Middle: Laurence, Last: Cole
Street Address: [Redacted]
Phone Number: [Redacted]
Position: 1
Restraint: 05
Ambulance/Hospital: MAAS: Sparrow
Injury: Ejected Trapped Yes No
Citation Issued: 1. Hazardous 2. Other
Airbag Deployed: 1. Yes 2. No 3. Not Equipped

Vehicle Registration: 33 016
State: MI
VIN: 1G1BL52P9RR174724
Vehicle Description (year, make, color): 94 Chevy White
Insurance: Self Insured
Towed To/By: ICSD Holt
Vehicle Direction: North East South West
Special Vehicles: 1 2 3 4 5 6
Vehicle Use: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
Vehicle Defect: 1 2 3 4 5 6
Private Trailer Type: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

First Name: [Redacted], Middle: [Redacted], Last: [Redacted]
Street Address: [Redacted]
Phone Number: [Redacted]
City: [Redacted], State: [Redacted], Zip: [Redacted]
Date of Birth: [Redacted]
Sex: M F
Ejected: Yes No
Trapped: Yes No
Injury: K B O A C
Airbag Deployed: 1. Yes 2. No 3. Not Equipped


Witness/Owner Name: [Redacted]
Address: [Redacted]
Phone Number: [Redacted]
Age: [Redacted]
Pos.: [Redacted]
Rest.: [Redacted]

Person Advised of Damaged Traffic Control: [Redacted]
Date: [Redacted], Time: [Redacted], Name: [Redacted]
Damaged Property: [Redacted]
Public Owner & Phone: [Redacted]

ROTARY MULTIFORMS ITC (616) 942-2574

UD-10 Form Number 5861553

Form Override Number

 <p>Ingham County Sheriff</p> <p>ADDITIONAL COMPLAINT REPORT</p> <p>Page No. <u> 1 </u></p>	Original Date 10-6-96	Complaint No. 96-C-16610
	Date of Supplementary Report	File Class 9300-1
Complainant	Address	
Nature of Complaint Fatal Accident	Reporting Officer Dep. M. Maier	

INFORMATION

At approximately 0135 hours on 10-6-96 I was contacted at my residence and was advised of a serious accident involving an Ingham County Sheriff's Office patrol vehicle. I made contact with the Complaint Desk and was advised by DEPUTY FARMER that he really didn't know what was going on. I advised DEPUTY FARMER that I would be at the Department within approximately 10 minutes.

When I arrived at the Department I met with SGT. SHELTON and DEPUTY BEALS who indicated that one of our patrol vehicles was involved in this accident. DEPUTY BEALS indicated that SGT. PAUL COLE was deceased at this time. I advised SGT. SHELTON that I was going to get my equipment, which I did. I also contacted DR. DAN LEE from Michigan State University, Highway Traffic Safety Center and requested that he come to the accident scene to assist with the investigation.

I went to the scene which was located on Barnes Rd., approximately ½ mile east of Edgar Rd. Upon arrival at the scene, I met with DET. LT. WILCOX who was in charge of the scene. LT. WILCOX indicated that he did not have a lot of information at this time as he had just arrived a short time earlier.

I met with SGT. TIM HOWERY who was off-duty. He indicated that there had been four witnesses to this accident. He stated he had the names of two of the witnesses and BOB HUDSON, who is a part-time officer with the Leslie Police Department had the names of the other two witnesses.

SGT. HOWERY advised me that the four witnesses had indicated that SGT. COLE had been traveling westbound on Barnes Rd. with his emergency equipment activated and he was traveling approximately 90 m.p.h. The witnesses indicated that a herd of deer had run across the roadway and that it appeared that SGT. COLE attempted to avoid these deer and in doing so, lost control of the car and impacted the tree.

INVESTIGATION

I went up and looked at the vehicle. The vehicle had impacted the tree on the driver's (left) side of the vehicle. The point of impact was just in front of the "B" pillar or approximately where the driver's shoulder would have been sitting in a normal position. The tree intruded into the vehicle approximately 3 ½ feet. The driver, SGT. COLE, was sitting in the passenger seat.

INVESTIGATION, Continued

The glass in the right front window was missing and I was advised that DEPUTY BEALS had broken this window to get to SGT. COLE to assess his condition. All of the other windows in the front and back were in place, however the front windshield was totally shattered, having multiple induced damage cracks in the windshield. The windows on the left side of the vehicle were missing due to the impact of the tree. This glass was laying to the west of the scene across the lawn and out into the roadway. This glass was scattered approximately 150 feet from the point of impact to where the last piece of glass was found.

I started tracing back the skid marks and it would appear that SGT. COLE, was going westbound at the time of the accident and went off the right side of the roadway. It appeared that he corrected to come back onto the road, but over-corrected and the rear end of the vehicle started to come around. The vehicle started to rotate in a counter clock-wise fashion. At this point, SGT. COLE was traveling in a southwesterly direction, going from the north side of the road to the south side of the road and the front end of the vehicle was facing northeast.

At this point SGT. COLE started to leave the roadway. By the evidence in the roadway from the skid marks, the vehicle continued to rotate and was now basically facing northeast. The vehicle continued into a ditch, narrowly missing a tree. It appeared that the front end was slightly airborne for several feet. The front end then came back down and the vehicle impacted the tree.

DR. DAN LEE from Michigan State University arrived at the scene and I advised him of the situation. Myself and DR. LEE then continued looking at the skid marks and looked for any evidence on the patrol vehicle which would indicate why this accident may have occurred.

I then made a field sketch of the scene while DR. LEE looked at the skid marks furthest east of the scene to see if we could get them marked. It was very difficult to observe the skid marks due to the lighting conditions and the light available to us.

After I made the field sketch, myself and DR. LEE measured the entire scene. We marked where the vehicle was, the skid marks coming into the tree, going off from the road, going across the lawn and across the road.

I advised the Rescue Squad members that they could extricate the body from the vehicle, which they did. Personnel from the Mason Area Ambulance Service was standing by, at which time they proceeded to take the body to Sparrow Hospital. DEPUTY BUEHLER of the Ingham County Sheriff's Office escorted the body to Sparrow Hospital. A wrecker from Holt Towing Service had been at the scene and the patrol vehicle was loaded onto a flatbed trailer, towed to the Ingham County Sheriff's Office and placed into Evidence.

INTERVIEW WITH KEITH SIMONS

KEITH SIMONS

Date of birth [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

At approximately 1815 hours on 10-7-96 I made contact with KEITH SIMONS in reference to this accident. I had received information that he had witnessed the accident and I wanted to get his statement.

KEITH SIMONS indicated that himself and SARAH FAY were southbound on US-127, at which time an Ingham County Sheriff's Office patrol vehicle passed them running lights and siren. He indicated that is the last time he observed them. He indicated in his travels he was southbound on US-127 and was going to go westbound on Barnes Rd.

KEITH SIMONS indicated that he was westbound on Barnes Rd. approaching the intersection of College Rd. and he observed another emergency vehicle. He observe the overhead lights of the vehicle coming southbound on College Rd. and then turn west on Barnes Rd. He indicated at this point he was traveling 55 m.p.h. and this patrol vehicle was steadily pulling away from him.

KEITH SIMONS indicated on Barnes Rd. approximately 1/2 mile west of College Rd., the patrol vehicle which was running emergency went off from the right side of the road. He indicated the patrol vehicle then "shot across to the left side of the road" and at that time he could not see anything else. He indicated that there was dust and at this time himself and another vehicle which was in front of him approached the vehicle which was now resting up against a tree in a yard on Barnes Rd. He indicated that himself and the other people and his girlfriend, SARAH FAY, went up to the car and attempted to open the passenger side door, but that it was jammed shut and that there was nothing that they could do for the victim inside.

KEITH SIMONS indicated during this time, the people who lived in the residence came out of the house indicating that they had heard the crash and they immediately went back inside and called 9-1-1.

KEITH SIMONS did not know the names of the people who were in front of him. He also indicated he did not see any deer. He indicated he talked to the people who were in front of him and they advised him they saw the deer pass in front of the patrol car.

This interview was concluded at approximately 1825 hours.

INTERVIEW WITH SARAH FAY

SARAH FAY

Date of birth [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

Work telephone [REDACTED]

I spoke with SARAH FAY at approximately 1830 hours on 10-10-96.

SARAH FAY indicated she was a passenger in a vehicle with KEITH SIMONS. She stated they were southbound on US-127 and there came a time when she observed an Ingham County Sheriff's Department station wagon go by them traveling southbound on US-127. This vehicle had its lights and siren activated. She indicated this vehicle got off on Barnes Rd., and as far as she could tell, it went westbound on Barnes Rd.

SARAH FAY indicated herself and KEITH SIMONS also went westbound on Barnes Rd. She stated as they were traveling west, they observed a patrol vehicle traveling southbound on College Rd. and then turn westbound onto Barnes Rd. This vehicle had its overhead lights activated. She indicated all of a sudden, it looked like the patrol vehicle was doing a U-turn. She indicated she saw the lights turn around and that is the last thing she could see until they got up to the scene and observed the patrol vehicle sitting against the tree.

SARAH FAY indicated they pulled into the driveway of the house where the patrol vehicle. She indicated there was another vehicle between their vehicle and the patrol vehicle and this vehicle also turned into the driveway. She indicated she did not go up to the car, she stayed back with the vehicles. She indicated that a person came out of the house and called 9-1-1. She stated she basically stood there and waited for emergency personnel to arrive. She stated that is all that she observed in reference to the accident.

The interview was concluded at approximately 1835 hours on 10-10-96.

INTERVIEW WITH STEVEN TAYLOR

STEVEN TAYLOR

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

I spoke with STEVEN TAYLOR at 0940 hours on 10-12-96.

STEVEN TAYLOR indicated at approximately 0115 hours on 10-6-96 he was westbound on Barnes Rd. and he observed a police car coming south on College Rd. and turn west onto Barnes Rd. He indicated this police car had the overhead lights activated. He stated there was one point which he was less than one-quarter mile behind the police car.

INTERVIEW WITH STEVEN TAYLOR, Continued

STEVEN TAYLOR indicated he observed something run out in front of the police car. He later indicated that one deer ran out in front of the patrol vehicle. He indicated the next thing he observed was, "I saw the car spin around two or three times". He indicated he was up next to the area and saw that the police car had impacted a tree. He indicated he pulled into the residence where the tree was located and at that time a person came out of the house with a telephone. He stated he advised this person to call 9-1-1.

STEVEN TAYLOR stated he tried several times to open the car doors to get to the person inside the car. He stated a few moments later a Paramedic (later identified as PARAMEDIC DEPUTY ROD BEALS) arrived at the scene. He indicated they again tried to get the door open, at which time DEPUTY BEALS broke the window out of the car, checked the person inside the vehicle and indicated that the subject was deceased.

STEVEN TAYLOR stated he gave his name to an officer at the scene and a few moments later himself and his friend, KATRINA LAWS, left the area and went on their way.

The interview was concluded at approximately 0950 hours on 10-12-96.

INTERVIEW WITH KATRINA LAWS

KATRINA LAWS

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

I spoke with KATRINA LAWS at approximately 1800 hours on 10-14-96.

KATRINA LAWS stated there was a time that she along with her friend, STEVEN TAYLOR, were westbound on Barnes Rd. She indicated they observed a police car coming southbound on College Rd. and turn westbound onto Barnes Rd. She indicated at this point she was looking down and she thinks she was lighting a cigarette when STEVE TAYLOR stated he saw something jump out. She stated at that time she looked up and saw the car turn around. She stated the next thing she can remember is they were up beside the car and observed that the patrol car was sitting up against a tree.

KATRINA LAWS stated there was moment when she thought the patrol car they observed was coming to help the patrol car that was up against a tree and all of a sudden she realized the car up against the tree was the car that they observed.

KATRINA LAWS stated they pulled into the yard of the house where the patrol car and tree were at. She stated she stayed in the car because she had her young son with her and STEVE TAYLOR went up to the car and went up to the patrol car to check the driver. She stated they waited until the ambulance arrived, gave their names to an officer and then left the area.

INTERVIEW WITH KATRINA LAWS, Continued

I asked KATRINA LAWS about what had jumped out in front of the patrol vehicle. She indicated she did not see anything at all and that STEVE TAYLOR advised her he observed one deer jump out in front of the patrol car.

The interview was concluded at approximately 1805 hours on 10-14-96.

DESCRIPTION OF VEHICLE

1994 Chevrolet Caprice, 4 door
License plate number, Michigan Sheriff's Department 33*016
VIN 1G1BL52P6RR174724

Due to the destruction of the vehicle, the mileage could not be obtained from the vehicle. The vehicle was a standard Michigan Sheriff Department vehicle in reference to its markings.

The vehicle is owned by Ingham County and is assigned to the Ingham County Sheriff's Office, 630 N. Cedar St., Mason, MI 48854, telephone (517) 676-2431.

The vehicle is self insured through the Michigan Municipal Risk League Pool.

The vehicle was towed to the Ingham County Sheriff's Office and placed into the impound lot.

DISPOSITION

Based on the information through my investigation of this accident, it appears that SGT. COLE was traveling westbound on Barnes Rd. SGT. COLE was running emergency to a violent domestic situation to back up a second officer. Due to the witnesses statements, a lone deer passed across the road in front of SGT. COLE, at which time SGT. COLE took evasive maneuvers in an attempt to miss this deer. This does not mean that SGT. COLE may have seen more than one deer.

SGT. COLE's vehicle went off the right side of the roadway. The vehicle started to go into a side-slip in a counter clockwise rotation. At this time the vehicle came back onto the roadway in a side-slip fashion and continued in a southwesterly direction until it went off the road on the south (left) side of the roadway and continued rotating in a counter clockwise fashion. The vehicle went through the ditch on the south (left) side of the roadway until impacting a tree at the driver's door on the left side of the vehicle. The vehicle did a rotation of approximately 260 degrees from the point which it left the roadway until it impacted the tree.

Due to the fact that this was a single motor vehicle accident and the four witnesses indicated there were no other drivers or any other people involved, this case will be closed to this Department at this time.

COMPLAINT NO: 96-C-16610
FILE CLASS: 9300-1
ORIGINAL DATE: 10-6-96

STATUS

Closed.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Martin L. Maier

Deputy Martin L. Maier, Badge 5076

/rmb

**INGHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
TRAFFIC CRASH SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT**

Incident Date	10-6-96	Incident Number	96-C-16610
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Day of Week	Sunday	Time Received	0115
		Time Arrived	0122
		Time Cleared	0445

LOCATION

Township	Aurelius	Section	36
Primary Road	Barnes	Secondary Road	Edgar

WEATHER CONDITIONS

National Weather Service
Grand Rapids, MI
(616) 956-5922

Time of Readings	0055
Visibility	10 Miles
Temperature	50 Degrees
Clouds	Clear
Winds	10 MPH from the South
Barometric Pressure	30.32 and Falling
Dew Point	45

ROADWAY

Composition	Blacktop	Markings	Fog and Center Lines
Speed Limit	55	Shoulder	Gravel
Grade/Super	none	Drag Factor	.89 %

VEHICLE #1

Year	1994	GVWR	
Make/Model	Chevy Carprice	Axles Per Unit	
Style	4 door	MPSC	
Registration	33* 016	ICCMC	
Expiration	None	USDOT	
VIN	1G1BL52P9RR174724	Weight @ Accident	
Mileage		Cargo	
Color	White	Haz Mat	Y__ N__
Weight		Placard	Y__ N__
		Placard Number	

VEHICLE #1 OWNER/CARRIER

Name	Ingham County		
Address (City, State & Zip)	630 N Cedar St Mason, MI 48854		
Telephone	517-676-2431		

VEHICLE #1 INSURANCE

Company Name	Self Insured.		
Address (City, State & Zip)			
Policy Number			

VEHICLE #1 DRIVER

Name	Paul Laurence Cole		
Address (City, State & Zip)	[REDACTED]		
Telephone	[REDACTED]	Race/Sex	[REDACTED]
Birthdate	[REDACTED]	Operators License #	[REDACTED]
Injury Code	[REDACTED]	Seat Belt Code	05
CDL Type		CDL Restrictions	
Medical Card	Yes ___ No ___	Hospital	Sparrow

VEHICLE #1 PASSENGER

Name			
Address (City, State & Zip)			
Telephone		Race/Sex	
Birthdate		Operators License #	
Injury Code		Seat Belt Code	
Hospital			

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS/STATEMENTS

Driver was on an emergency run, going West bound on Barnes road when several deer ran out and he swerved to miss them. He went off of the right side of the road over corrected back to the left, and lost control in doing so. This caused him to go into a sideslip and he impacted a tree at the left front door.

DRIVERS/PASSENGERS INTERVIEWED BY

POLICE OFFICERS AT SCENE

M Maier, R Beals, Lt Wilcox and Dr Dan Lee (MSU)

RESCUE

Department	Ingham County Sheriff	City Mason	
Personnel at Scene			

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Department	Mason Area Ambulance	City Mason	
Personnel at Scene			

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Department		City	
Personnel at Scene			

WRECKER SERVICE

Department	Holt Towing	City Mason	
Personnel at Scene			
Vehicles Located At	Ingham County Sheriff Department		

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY

Dep Martin Maier

MEASUREMENTS TAKEN BY

Dep Martin Maier and Dr Dan Lee

VICTIM

Name	Paul Laurence Cole		
Address (City, State & Zip)	[REDACTED]		
Telephone	[REDACTED]	Race/Sex	[REDACTED]
D.O.B.	[REDACTED]	OPS #	[REDACTED]
Injury Code	[REDACTED]	Seat Belt Code	05
Hospital	Sparrow	Vehicle # <u> 1 </u>	Department

VICTIM

Name			
Address (City, State & Zip)			
Telephone		Race/Sex	
D.O.B.		OPS #	
Injury Code		Seat Belt Code	
Hospital		Vehicle # <u> </u>	Department

ATTACHMENTS

If this accident occurred on or involved a State trunk line, call Richard Johnson, Attorney General Investigator, 373-1474 or 764-4204.

Time and Date Notified		Notification Made By	
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If this accident occurred on or involved a County road, call Dave Sonnenberg, 676-9722.

Time and Date Notified	10-8-96 0730	Notification Made By	M Maier
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TRAFFIC ACCIDENT MEASUREMENT RECORD

Date of Accident: 10-6-96
 Location: Barnes east of Edgar

Spot	Describe	Direction S	Direction E
	RP is power pole west of the driveway		
	To RP 1	N 16 Ft 2 In	
	West side of Glass		44 Ft 6In
	West intersept of driveway	0	98 Ft 0 In
	East intersept of driveway	0	109 Ft 6 IN
	Left rear tire	17 Ft 6 In	156 Ft 7 In
	Left ront tre	12 Ft 11 In	161 Ft 5 In
	Tree	16 Ft 4 In	160 Ft 7 In
	Right rear tire	22 Ft 11In	160 Ft 1 In
	Right front tire	14 Ft 8 In	166 Ft 11 In
	Right rear tire off of road South side	0	258 Ft 3 In
	Right front tire off of road South side	0	275 Ft 8 In
	Left rear tire off of road South side	0	296 Ft 8 In
	Left front tire off of road south side	0	312 Ft 0 In
	Right rear on road North side	N 22 Ft 7 In	378 Ft 4 In
	Right front on road North side	N 22 Ft 7 In	410 Ft 0 In
	Left rear on road North side	N 22 Ft 7 In	443 Ft 5 In
	Right side off of road North side	N 22 Ft 7 In	588 Ft 7 In
	Width of road	22 Ft 7 IN	