

Shreveport Police Dept.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Police investigate fatal crash

Authorities are continuing to investigate a crash that claimed the life of a local motorist early Tuesday along a stretch of Terry Bradshaw Pass way.

On Tuesday November 2, 2016, just before 8:30 a.m., members of the Shreveport Police Department's Patrol Division responded to a two vehicle crash that occurred along Terry Bradshaw Pass way at Walker Road. Upon officer's arrival at the crash, it was learned the adult female driver of a 1997 Ford Explorer, died on scene as a result of injuries sustained after being ejected from the vehicle she was operating. A juvenile male inside the vehicle during the crash suffered minor injuries and was treated and released from the hospital.

Information and evidence recovered at the scene of the accident suggests the woman's vehicle, after being struck by a 2013 Ford Explorer driven by 37 year old Rita Defatta, left the roadway and rolled at least twice, coming to rest on it's roof just off the shoulder of the roadway. Defatta, who remained on scene following the accident, nor the toddler traveling with her, suffered any injury. Prior to the collision, it was reported that both vehicles were traveling west on the roadway, when Defatta rear ended the victim's vehicle. Defftta was taken to a local hospital to undergo toxicology testing as mandated by state law. While not all crashed are survivable, proper use of seat belts can greatly decrease an occupant's chance of death and may greatly reduce the extent of injury. The accident remains under investigation.

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