



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

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Illinois State Police Investigate Fatal Crash in Pana

PANA – The Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Internal Investigation is investigating a fatal traffic crash in Christian County.

On July 29, 2026, at approximately 6:15 a.m., ISP SWAT was executing a search warrant at a residence on County Highway 12 in Tower Hill, IL. While executing the warrant, officers observed an occupied vehicle down the street that was believed to be related to the residence that was being searched. When approached by a Christian County deputy, the vehicle fled. A deputy briefly pursued the vehicle but stopped pursuing due to the vehicle driving at a high rate of speed. The deputy lost sight of the vehicle but continued in the vehicle's direction and subsequently found the vehicle crashed in the woods in the 200 block of N. 2600 East Road in Pana, IL. The male driver was ejected from the vehicle and pronounced deceased on scene. The female passenger was transported to an area hospital with injuries.

In accordance with the Police and Community Relations Improvement Act (50 ILCS 727) and the Illinois State Police Law (20 ILCS 2605), Special Agents of the Illinois State Police Division of Internal Investigation are investigating this incident.

This investigation is open and ongoing. ISP is currently processing evidence and conducting interviews. Upon completion of the investigation, all evidence and facts will be submitted for review to the Christian County State's Attorney's Office. No additional information is available at this time.

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