

Jackson County District Attorney's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE For immediate release

The Jackson County District Attorney's Office announced this afternoon that after a thorough review of the evidence collected by the Oregon State Police and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office concerning the fatal crash that occurred on August 8, 2015 on Interstate 5 near milepost 4 northbound, no criminal charges can be filed.

On August 8, 2015, at approximately 7:21am, police responded to a reported crash on Interstate 5 northbound, near the Oregon-California border. Several hours prior to the crash, the driver of a semi-truck-and-trailer, Karamjit Singh Mann (DOB 12/09/77), lawfully parked his semi-truck on the shoulder of the interstate. He set his brakes and went into the sleeper cab to rest. Hours later, the driver of a 2013 Toyota Prius, Blair Stephen Shapiro (DOB 4/21/63), travelled onto the interstate's shoulder and collided into the rear of the parked semi-truck. Mr. Mann awoke in the sleeper cab of his semi when he was knocked onto the floor due to the impact of the crash. He went outside and discovered the Prius wedged under the rear of his trailer. The Prius was occupied by the driver, Blair Shapiro, right-front passenger, Peipei Shapiro (DOB 11/14/63), and the couple's 9-year-old daughter. There was no roadway evidence visible to indicate any type of evasive maneuver by the Prius prior to impact.

The Deputy Medical Examiner pronounced Blair Shapiro and the 9-year-old child deceased at the scene. Passenger Peipei Shapiro suffered serious injuries, requiring life-flight to Providence Hospital in Medford. The driver of the semi-truck, Karamjit Singh, was not injured in the crash. A subsequent interview of the surviving passenger of the Prius, Peipei Shapiro, indicated that the family had been traveling from Santa Monica, CA to Portland, OR. They had considered getting a hotel room earlier in the trip, but decided to continue driving through the night.

The crash scene was investigated by Oregon State Police and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. Police marked roadway evidence, photographed the scene, collected statements and constructed a diagram of the crash. The conclusion of the investigation was that Mr. Shapiro had inexplicably driven onto the shoulder of the interstate, causing the collision with the parked semi-truck. There are presently no indications that drugs and/or alcohol were involved.

Based on the completed investigation, there is absolutely no evidence of culpability on Mr. Mann, and no criminal charges will be filed.