



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON

BETH HECKERT  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
CRIMINAL DIVISION

February 15, 2018  
12:00 p.m.

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**for immediate release**

The Jackson County District Attorney's Office announced this morning that after a thorough review of the evidence collected by the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, Medford Police Department, Ashland Police Department, Central Point Police Department and the Oregon State Police concerning the death of pedestrian Meadow Grace Boyd (date of birth 4/30/04), no criminal charges will be filed. There is insufficient evidence to support proof beyond a reasonable doubt that Kenneth Lynn Anderson, the driver of the vehicle that struck Ms. Boyd and caused her death, acted in a reckless or criminally negligent manner or that he knew that the collision had occurred.

Meadow Grace Boyd was found deceased beside East Evans Creek Road at approximately 7:30 AM on October 30, 2017. It was later determined that she had been struck by a passing motorist. Passing motorists saw Meadow on the ground and rendered aid until emergency personnel arrived on scene.

Meadow's father had waited with her for the bus that morning. When her father saw the bus he left for work so as to head into town ahead of the bus. The bus was traveling southbound, towards the town of Rogue River. It is believed that Meadow was struck and killed as she leaned out into the road to signal the bus to stop. The vehicle that struck her was traveling northbound. The bus had previously failed to pick Meadow up and she had to use the light on her cell phone to get the bus driver's attention. It was dark and foggy the morning of the collision. Garbage cans lined the roadway because it was a garbage collection day. Meadow was slightly taller than the garbage cans. Investigation narrowed the time of impact to be between 0703 and 0708. The Jackson County Sheriff's Department did a press release asking for the public's help in solving the crime. The press release indicated that the girl may have been struck by an object protruding from the side of a vehicle.

Mr. Anderson came forward indicating that he may have struck Meadow. He was extremely distraught and in tears when he went to the Sheriff's office. He stated that he had seen the press release and realized he may have struck Meadow. Mr. Anderson stated that, at the time, he believed he had hit a garbage can. He stated that a line of cars was coming towards him and blinded him. He slowed and felt something strike his vehicle; he believed it to be a garbage can based on the fact that the road was lined with garbage cans. Mr. Anderson's vehicle had a camper in the bed. The camper had four jack stands, one on each corner, which hung down and protruded approximately 6-12 inches from the side of the truck. Mr. Anderson denied using intoxicants or being on his cell phone.

Detectives were able to recover video from the day of the incident showing Mr. Anderson. The video showed Mr. Anderson in Grants Pass immediately prior to the collision and also showed him arriving at work immediately after the collision. He did not appear to be intoxicated. A warrant was executed on Mr. Anderson's phone. The phone was not in use at the time of the collision. Detectives seized and analyzed Mr. Anderson's truck. It was determined that fibers from Meadow's clothing were present on the front passenger side jack stand on the camper.

The most likely sequence of events is as follows. Meadow's father left her as the bus approached, heading southbound. Meadow was leaning forward slightly looking north, towards the approaching bus. Meadow was attempting to signal the bus with the light on her cell phone. Mr. Anderson, who was traveling northbound, was blinded by the light from the oncoming vehicles and/or bus. The jack stand on the camper that protruded from the side of the truck struck Meadow in the head, causing her death.

It was determined that Mr. Anderson was not intoxicated or distracted, and that speed was not a factor in Meadow's death. It was also determined that Mr. Anderson did not know that he had struck Meadow. The events of that day were a terrible tragedy. However, they do not rise to the level of criminal conduct.

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