



Sheriff Steve Stovall

Stephenson County Sheriff's Office

For Immediate Release
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FATAL TRAFFIC CRASH – W. LORAN ROAD

On September 7, 2026, at approximately 2:21 a.m., Stephenson County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to the area of W. Loran Rd. and S. Lott Rd. in rural Stephenson County after receiving an iPhone crash detection alert.

Upon arrival, a responding deputy located a Ford sedan with extensive damage in the ditch on the north side of Loran Rd. The deputy also observed approximately 15 cattle in the roadway.

The Ford sedan was occupied by three individuals: a 22-year-old man who was driving the vehicle, a 25-year-old man who was seated in the front passenger seat, and a 25-year-old man who was seated in the rear of the vehicle. All three occupants sustained severe injuries. The rear-seat passenger was the only occupant who was conscious when the first deputy arrived at the scene.

The front-seat passenger was transported by medical helicopter to an area hospital for treatment. The rear-seat passenger was transported by ambulance to Mercyhealth Hospital in Freeport. The driver was transported from the scene but succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased during transport to a medical facility.

The results of the preliminary investigation indicate that the Ford sedan was traveling eastbound on Loran Rd., east of Lott Rd., when it struck multiple cattle that were in the roadway. Following the collisions, the Ford sedan left the roadway and came to rest in the ditch on the north side of Loran Rd.

Two cattle were found deceased at the scene as a result of the crash. Two additional cattle sustained injuries severe enough that they had to be euthanized at the scene.

The crash remains under active and ongoing investigation by the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office. The identities of those involved are not being released at this time. Additional information may be released as it becomes available.

The Stephenson County Sheriff's Office would like to acknowledge and thank the Stephenson County Coroner's Office, Pearl City Fire Department, Leamon's Ambulance Service, and Freeport Fire Department for their assistance at the scene.

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