



PRESS RELEASE

#011606
TOMBALL POLICE DEPARTMENT

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For Immediate Release

Date: January 15, 2006
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Auto Fatality Accident

Issue Date: January 16, 2006

On Sunday, January 15, 2006, at approximately 11:37 p.m., the Tomball Police Department received a report of a major traffic accident in the 26800 Blk of Tomball Parkway. Upon arrival, responding patrol units discovered that both occupants in a 2001 Lexus, which received direct impact during the accident, had suffered severe injuries. Responding EMS personnel administered care to the victims who was then immediately transported to Tomball Regional Hospital by Northwest EMS. Upon arrival to the hospital, Rita Gervais, 80 yoa of Tomball, was pronounced dead by the attending physician. The driver, and daughter of the victim, Sandra Laine, 61 yoa of Spring, was treated and released.

Investigation revealed that Tyree Jack Jones, 29 yoa of Tomball, the driver of a 2000 Chevrolet 1500, was traveling northbound through the 26800 Blk of Tomball Parkway at a high rate of speed. As the Chevrolet approached the intersection of Tomball Parkway @ Holderrieth, the driver of the vehicle failed to control his speed, striking the rear of the 2001 Lexus, which was coming to a halt for the red light displayed at that intersection. The impact caused a chain reaction to four other vehicles stationary at that intersection.

Immediately upon impact, Tyree Jones exited his vehicle and fled the scene. Tomball Police officers, with the assistance of Harris County Sheriff Department K-9 unit, and Tomball Fire Department were able to locate the driver in a wooded area just east of the accident scene. Mr. Jones was taken into custody and transported to Tomball Regional Hospital due to apparent minor injuries. While at Tomball Regional Hospital, a blood specimen was taken from Mr. Jones. Results of the specimen showed him to have a blood alcohol concentration of 0.31, nearly four times the legal limit in the State of Texas.

Tyree Jones remains in police custody and has been charged with Intoxication Manslaughter and Fail to Stop and Render Aid, both felony charges in the State of Texas.

The body of the deceased was taken to the Harris County Medical Examiners Office for autopsy.

The accident occurred within the jurisdiction of the City of Tomball and officials with the Tomball Police Department are conducting the accident investigation.

This is the first recorded fatality accident in Tomball for 2006. A total of 2 traffic related fatalities were reported in Tomball in 2005.