

PRESS RELEASE



#07192006 TOMBALL POLICE DEPARTMENT

400 Fannin, Tomball, Texas 77375 (281) 351-5451 Fax: (281) 351-2615

For Immediate Release

Date: July 19, 2006

Contact: Sergeant Richard R. Grassi Jr

Phone: (281) 290-1346

Auto Fatality Accident

On Sunday, July 16, 2006, at approximately 4:35 a.m., a member of the Tomball Police Department observed a 2004 Chevy Impala traveling at a high rate of speed through the 800 Blk of Lizzie Lane. To effectively enforce the speeding laws, the officer initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle in the 800 Blk of West Main Street. Immediately after pulling into the Regions Bank parking lot located at 810 West Main Street as if he were going to yield, the driver of the vehicle accelerated through the parking lot, refusing to stop for the police officer.

The vehicle continued to flee from officers at a high rate of speed as it turned westbound on Baker Drive from Quinn Street. Traveling at a high rate of speed through the 1600 Blk of Baker Drive, the driver apparently lost control of his vehicle while attempting to negotiate a curve, entering a ditch at that location, and later striking a tree.

Responding EMS personnel administered care to the victims. The driver of the vehicle, Brandon Baker Reed, 17 yoa, of Magnolia, was immediately air lifted to Memorial Hermann Hospital by Phi Air Med 7, where he remains in critical condition. The passenger in the vehicle, Carl Edward Smith, 17 yoa, of Magnolia was pronounced dead at the scene.

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 third recorded fatality accident in Tomball for 2006. A total of 2 traffic related fatalities were reported in Tomball in 2005.