



Chelan County Sheriff's Office

Brian Burnett, Sheriff

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Undersheriff Jason Mathews

Incident #: 16C08203

Phone: 509-667-6832

Date: 7/16/2016

<http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/sheriff>

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Sheriff Brian Burnett reports on July 16, 2016 at about 8:22 PM, Rivercom Dispatch received a call of a vehicle vs. motorcycle accident 2.5 mile up Apple Acres Road from the Chelan Airport. It was soon discovered, it was actually a bicyclist and the reporting party stated the male was deceased. The vehicle that struck the bicyclist fled the scene and was described as possibly being a red truck with extensive damage to the front end and possibly a broken windshield. The bicyclist was identified as 50 year old, Gary Knowlton of Brewster. His next of Kin have been notified. While riding his bike at this location, the suspect vehicle, also going the same direction, struck Knowlton from behind.

The investigation is pending further information regarding the suspect who fled the scene. If you have any information on persons or vehicles possibly associated with the collision, please call Rivercom at 663-9911 or the Chelan County Sheriff's Office at 667-6850.

July 18, 2016 Update:

Late yesterday afternoon (Sunday, July 17th) with assistance from Okanogan County Sheriff's Office the suspect vehicle was located unoccupied and abandoned in an orchard. Chelan County Sheriff's Deputies and Detectives responded to the scene. The vehicle was secured, impounded, and transported to a secure location in Wenatchee for further analysis. Detectives are actively working this investigation.

As previously stated, anyone who witnessed this vehicle in the area of the airport or has any information about the driver of this vehicle is encouraged to call RiverCom at 663-9911 or the Chelan County Sheriff's Office at 667-6850.

Integrity ★ Teamwork ★ Excellence

Jason Mathews
Undersheriff

★ **Dave Helvey** ★
Chief of Special Operations

Rick Johnson ★
Chief of Patrol

★ **Valerie Secrist** ★
Chief Civil Deputy

★ **Jan Brincat** ★
Executive Assistant