

June 03, 2013

News Release

For Immediate Release

Police Investigate Fatality Accident

Sunday morning at 1:50 a.m., officers were dispatched to Burlington Northern Railroad Track #2232, just north of the intersection of Commercial and Benton for an injury crash.

A 2006 Ford Mustang driven by Christopher M. Peay, 23, of Springfield, was traveling northbound on Benton and proceeded north of the intersection of Benton and Commercial. It continued going north leaving the concrete surface of Benton onto the gravel rail yard belonging to Burlington Northern Railroad. The vehicle crossed one set of tracks and continued north until it struck a rail car sitting on Track #2232. The vehicle struck the side of the rail car and the truck supporting the rail car. The impact with the first set of tracks caused a bend in the tracks. The second impact with the rail car caused the tracks, the rail car, and the ties to be shifted in the ground. Peay died Sunday morning at a Springfield hospital.

Passengers were identified as Jeremiah M. Devaliti, 17, Phelan Z. Walker, 16, and Malik R. Clark, 16, all of Springfield. The three passengers are in critical condition at Springfield hospitals. There was no indication of seat belts used by any of the passengers.

The accident is still under investigation. Immediate families have been notified.

Media Contact: Lisa Cox, Public Affairs Officer

O: 864-1786 | C: 839-5301

Release authorized by: Lt. Brian Phillips