



# KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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For immediate release:  
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## Bicyclist dies following Saturday afternoon collision

**Central Kitsap, Wash.** -- Kitsap County Sheriff's traffic deputies are investigating a weekend collision in which a bicyclist was transported to Tacoma with critical injuries. The bicyclist has since died.

**Location:** NW Holly Road at intersection with Wildcat Lake Road NW, Central Kitsap.

**Time & date:** Approximately 1:00 p.m., Saturday, July 4, 2009.

### Involved:

**(a) Bicyclist:** James Michael McClurkan, age 69, Bremerton resident. Mr. McClurkan was treated on-scene then transported by a medic unit to Tacoma General Hospital with critical head injuries. He died at the hospital Sunday morning.

**(b) Vehicle:** 2003 Nissan Murano crossover SUV.

**Driver:** Female, age 47, from Central Kitsap. There were no other occupants in the vehicle. The driver was not injured.

### Responding agencies:

**Law enforcement:** Patrol deputies and traffic investigators of the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office.

**Fire:** Engine and medic units from Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue.

## **Synopsis:**

Preliminary investigative reports indicate that Mr. McClurkan was traveling eastbound on NW Holly Road utilizing the paved portion of the (south) shoulder of the roadway. He was riding a Rodriguez (manufacturer) 30-speed road bike and was wearing a protective helmet.

The Nissan Murano was heading westbound on Holly Road. As the SUV reached the intersection of Holly Road & Wildcat Lake Road, the driver of the Murano turned left onto Wildcat Lake Road as Mr. McClurkan was crossing the intersection.

The Murano struck the bicyclist with its left front bumper. The force of the collision knocked the rider up and onto the SUV's hood and windshield, damaging both, before he rolled off of the vehicle breaking the driver's door outside mirror. The victim's momentum was stopped when he landed in a drainage ditch at the southeast corner of the intersection.

There is no indication that either person had consumed alcoholic intoxicants or was under the influence of narcotics. Excessive vehicle speed was not a factor in the cause of the collision.

Persons who may have witnessed this collision, or who may have information related to the collision, are asked to contact Deputy Dave Green, sheriff's office traffic investigator, at (360) 337-4634.

Upon completion of this fatality traffic collision investigation the case file will be sent to the Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office for review and a decision on charging.

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