



ONEIDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Grady M. Hartman
Sheriff

Terri M. Hook
Chief Deputy



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – February 25, 2026

On Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 12:37 PM the Oneida County Sheriff's Office received a call of a 73 year old male that had been run over by a vehicle. The incident occurred on the Willow Flowage in the Town of Little Rice. Immediately after the phone call, life saving measures were attempted; however, the male succumbed to his injuries on scene.

Upon investigation, it was determined that the vehicle became stuck on the ice in heavy snow and wind during white out conditions. The deceased, Randall G. Bernau of Hazelhurst, WI, got onto the bumper of the vehicle in an attempt to gain better traction for the operator, 69 year old Jeffrey Larson of Irma, WI. At some point, the deceased fell off the bumper and was run over by the truck as it was backing up.

Alcohol and recklessness were determined not to be factors. There will not be charges referred to the District Attorney's Office. This was a tragic accident.

On scene assisting the Oneida County Sheriff's Office were personnel from the Little Rice Fire Department and the Oneida County Ambulance Service.

Questions can be directed to Captain Tyler Young at the Oneida County Sheriff's Office.

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