



WINTER HAVEN

The Chain of Lakes City

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Gary W. Hester, Chief of Police

Date: June 29, 2011
Time: 11:00 A.M.
Contact: Jamie Brown – Public Information Officer
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WINTER HAVEN – On June 29, 2011 at approximately 1:20 a.m., a 1993 Green Dodge Dakota truck crashed into a power pole in the area of Hwy 17 (3rd St., SW) and 5th St., SW leaving the driver in extremely critical condition and the passenger in serious, but stable condition.

The driver of the truck, Cody Sanders (W/M, DOB 11-15-93, 875 S. Buena Vista Dr., Lake Alfred) and passenger Mychal Lee Ault (W/M, DOB 11-27-91, 2919 Hickory St., Winter Haven) had left a residence in the Inwood area of Winter Haven and were heading towards Lake Roy to go swimming. Austin Booth (W/M, DOB 6-29-89, 365 Teranova Blvd., Winter Haven) was a passenger in a vehicle that left the residence at the same time.

Sanders passed the second vehicle at a high rate of speed losing control of the truck slamming into a power pole on the driver's side. The roof of the truck had to be removed to get Sanders out of the vehicle. He was flown to LRMC in extremely critical condition. His passenger, Ault, was taken to Winter Haven Hospital and transferred to Tampa General Hospital.

When the vehicle Booth was in came up on the crash, Booth exited his vehicle and started taking beer cans out of the truck and throwing them into the bushes. When emergency personnel arrived, Booth hid in the bushes and a witness to the crash told police officers he was there. Booth was found and arrested for loitering, obstructing justice and violation of probation.

Alcohol appears to be a factor in the crash and the investigation continues with charges pending.