

Oklahoma Department of Public Safety Oklahoma Highway Patrol SUPPLEMENTAL FORM

☑ OHP Investigation☑ Agency Assist

Page 1 of 2

TITLE OF REPORT

CASE SUMMARY

On Thursday, May 25th, 2023, at approximately 6:30 PM, a collision involving serious injuries occurred on Interstate 44 near mile marker 208 in Creek County, Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol responded and began investigating the collision.

During the investigation, it was determined that a disabled maroon Mercury Grand Marquis was parked on the paved outside (south) shoulder of the east bound lanes of I-44. The owner of the Mercury, VINCE DAKE, had a flat tire and summoned AAA services to have the tire changed. DOUGLAS EDINGER was employed by Calvin's Wrecker and was dispatched to change the tire.

Upon arrival, EDINGER parked a red Ford Ranger with "AAA" reflective stickers and emergency hazards activated in the large gravel area directly south of the Mercury. The Mercury did not have its hazard lights activated. EDINGER began changing the front driver's side tire on the shoulder when he was struck by a black Ram pickup that was traveling east bound in the outside lane of I-44. The Ram pickup was a marked OSBI crime scene unit that was operated by OSBI Agent RYAN WOOLLEY. EDINGER was wearing a green and orange reflective traffic vest when he was struck. EDINGER was transported to St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa with critical injuries.

WOOLLEY declined an interview at the scene, but stated he thought he struck the Mercury's spare tire which then struck EDINGER. DAKE stated that he was standing behind the Mercury attempting to direct traffic away from EDINGER when the Ram nearly struck him. DAKE stated that he yelled at EDINGER which caused him to turn towards traffic before he was struck by the RAM. DAKE stated EDINGER was never in the roadway and was struck while he was on the shoulder. Scrape marks from the spare tire and wheel were located on the shoulder near the front driver's side wheel well.

A dent was observed on the passenger side front bumper of the Ram. The damage continued down the passenger side to the rear passenger door. The damage appeared consistent with the height of a crouched adult. Orange and green fabric from EDINGER'S traffic vest was observed in multiple areas along the damage path.

WOOLLEY did not exhibit any signs of impairment. WOOLLEY consented to a blood draw shortly after the collision.

WOOLLEY gave consent for his work and personal cell phones to be downloaded to verify they were not in use at the time of the collision. Both phones were successfully downloaded and Cellebrite reports were generated outlining the usage around the time of the collision.

INVESTIGATING TROOPER	BADGE #	TROOP	COUNTY	AGENCY CASE #	DATE OF REPORT
TRP Matt Stacy	889	Z	CREEK	23-010668	07/17/2023

23-010668 Page 2 of 2

A written statement from WOOLLEY indicated that he answered a phone call shortly before the collision. WOOLLEY then changed lanes from the inside lane to the outside lane of I-44. WOOLLEY stated that he was traveling behind two semis when he observed a male standing on the shoulder. WOOLLEY observed an additional male crouched on the shoulder near a car. WOOLLEY then heard a thump that was later confirmed to be from striking Edinger.

After analyzing the cell phone data, it was found that the phones were used to make phone calls during his drive. A phone call was observed on his personal phone from "Jennifer" at 6:28:30 PM. The phone call lasted two minutes and sixteen seconds in duration (0:02:16). A phone call was then made on WOOLLEY'S work phone at 6:31:59 PM to OSBI Agent BRAD GREEN. STACY later spoke to Agent GREEN who told him that WOOLLEY was notifying him that he was involved in a collision.

EDINGER was eventually released from St. Francis to a rehab facility in Tulsa. EDINGER was released from the rehab facility on July 7th, 2023 to continue to recover at home. EDINGER still participates in rehab due to lost physical functions to his right side, but his recovery continues to progress. EDINGER does not remember anything for approximately 1 week around the collision so no formal interview was conducted.

The conclusion of the investigation determined that EDINGER was struck by the Ram pickup while he was changing the flat on the shoulder of I-44. No evidence was located to indicate Edinger was in the travel portion of the roadway when he was struck.

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