



Press Release: Vehicle vs Building Crash 05-15-24

Date: May 17th, 2024

Media Contact: Captain William Davis 417-623-3131 x1446

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:50 pm the Joplin Police Department Emergency Communications Center received a 911 call reporting a vehicle crash near the area of 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Wall Avenue in Joplin. Officers with the Joplin Police Department, as well as members of the Joplin Fire Department and METS Ambulance, responded to the scene. Officers located a 2022 Porsche Panarama and observed that the front engine compartment had been severed from the passenger compartment of the vehicle. An adult male driver, identified as Jeffery W. Heck, age 62 of Joplin, was transported to Mercy Hospital for injuries sustained in the crash. He is considered to be in stable condition. An adult female passenger was also transported to Mercy Hospital for injuries and is considered to be in stable condition with serious injuries.

The Joplin Police Department Major Crash Team responded and are actively conducting a crash investigation. Preliminary investigation findings indicate the vehicle was traveling north on Wall Avenue and crashed into a utility pole and a structure at 1204 S. Wall Avenue. Both alcohol and speed are believed to be probable contributing factors in this crash. Criminal charges for Driving While Intoxicated (felony) for Jeffery W. Heck have been forwarded to the Jasper County Prosecuting Attorney's Office for review.

The investigation into this crash remains ongoing and further updates may be released as information becomes available.