



PRESS RELEASE

January 18, 2009

At approximately 9:21 pm last night, Deputy Anthony Hovey observed a vehicle traveling 61 mph in hour in a 50 mph zone northbound on Rte 115 in West Gray.

Deputy Hovey turned around and attempted to stop the speeding vehicle near the Rte 202/Rte 115 intersection in Windham.

The suspect vehicle initially slowed down and started to pull to the side of the roadway but then accelerated into a right turn onto Rte 115 heading toward North Windham.

Deputy Hovey maintained visual contact with the suspect vehicle as it continued to accelerate away from his police cruiser.

At the intersection of Rte 115 and the Varney Mill Rd., the suspect vehicle came up behind a group of the vehicles. The suspect swerved to the left and proceeded to pass the group of three vehicles while a fourth vehicle approached from the opposite direction.

Shortly after making this pass, the suspect vehicle's headlights were seen turning in the direction of Deputy Hovey followed by a plume of snow and debris.

As Deputy Hovey approached the scene, he observed a portion of the vehicle's front end in the roadway, but could not find the passenger's compartment of the vehicle. After exiting his vehicle, Deputy Hovey

located the passenger's compartment in woods adjacent to a private residence.

The passenger's compartment had traveled approximately 100 feet beyond a large pine tree which appears to have been struck by the suspect vehicle.

The operator has been identified as Devin S. Betty, 24 years of age of Buxton. He expired at the scene.

Accident re-constructionists from the Windham Police Department and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office are investigating the crash.

Sheriff's detectives are interested in speaking to any motorist who may have traveled in the area of Rte 115 between the Varney Mill Rd. and the Smith Rd. in Windham between 9:30 and 9:45 pm.

They can be reached at 1-800-266-1444, extension 2208.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Chief Deputy Kevin Joyce at 774-1444, extension 2115.

Kevin Joyce, Chief Deputy