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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Wrong-Way Driver Causes Serious Injury Crash Motorcycle Strikes Tow Truck that Stopped to Avoid Wrong-Way Driver 29th Wrong-Way Driver This Year



Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County sheriff's deputies responded to multiple 911 calls just after midnight today reporting a motorist driving eastbound in the westbound lanes of I-94 from W. 35th Street. Several drivers indicated they had to swerve to avoid being struck.

As squads were en route, a crash was reported westbound I-94 at N. 25th Street. A tow truck operator observed a wrong-way vehicle coming toward him at full freeway speeds in lane #1 - the high speed lane, slammed on his brakes, hit his horn, and stayed in the lane to protect the vehicles traveling behind him. The wrong-way driver was able to stop and avoid striking the tow truck. A motorcyclist then struck the tow truck, and sustained serious facial and head injuries. He was conscious and breathing, but unresponsive at the scene.

The sheriff's deputies closed the freeway and began to treat the injured motorcyclist until the Milwaukee Fire Department arrived to transport him to Froedtert Hospital.

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Based on witness accounts, the wrong-way driver entered the freeway from the 35th Street off-ramp. The driver, age 80, was not impaired, and stated she was lost, confused, and didn't know what to do. No video is available of her wrong-way driving.

She was issued citations for Driving the Wrong Way on a Divided Highway and Inattentive Driving, and turned over to a responsible party. She will be required to retest for her driver's license, in an attempt to revoke her driving privileges. She was ordered to appear before the District Attorney, where the Sheriff's Office will be seeking a charge of 2nd Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety (RES). This is a Class G Felony, with a maximum prison term of ten years.

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