



# Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### Teen Passenger Critically Injured in Freeway Crash



Striking vehicle



Mitchell Tompkins



Pickup struck in distress lane

Milwaukee, WI – On Thursday, April 24, at 2:30 p.m., deputies responded to a two-vehicle crash on northbound I-894 at W. Oklahoma Avenue. According to witnesses, a white Jeep Cherokee was travelling between lane three and the right distress lane, when it struck an out of traffic disabled pickup truck.

A fifteen-year-old male was trapped in the rear passenger seat of the Jeep, and had to be extricated and transported for life-threatening injuries. He remains at Children's Hospital in critical condition. The 21-year-old driver of the striking vehicle, Mitchell J. Tompkins, age 21, of Milwaukee, and two other minor passengers, ages 15 and 16, sustained minor injuries and were treated and released. The driver admitted smoking a synthetic form of marijuana, and the passengers admitted smoking marijuana.

Drug paraphernalia was found in the vehicle, and Tompkins did poorly on standardized field sobriety tests. In a complaint issued today, Tompkins faces five criminal counts: Reckless Driving/Causing Great Bodily Harm, a Class I felony; Second Degree Reckless Injury, a Class F felony; two counts of Second Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety, Class G felonies; and one misdemeanor count of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. If convicted on all counts, Tompkins faces up to 36 years in prison. Pending toxicology results, Tompkins may face additional charges for driving impaired.

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