Milwaukee County Sheriff’s Office

NEWS RELEASE

MCSO Deputies and Tosa Fire Medical Unit Save Overdose Victim on Freeway

Milwaukee, WI – Today, at about 2:15 p.m., deputies responded to a call of a sick driver on the I-41/US-45 northbound to I-94 westbound ramp to Highway 100 in the zoo interchange. The vehicle, a silver Dodge Ram, was in the right distress lane and the driver was outside saying the passenger was not breathing.

A deputy checked on the 45-year-old woman’s status, and found she was not breathing. He administered Narcan while she was still in the vehicle. She had a faint pulse and was unresponsive. The deputies pulled her from the vehicle and administered a second dose of Narcan. She remained unresponsive and deputies performed CPR until Wauwatosa Fire Department emergency personnel arrived. A deputy had placed an AED on the woman, which advised continuing CPR. Tosa Fire personnel administered an injection of Narcan and she became responsive just after 2:30 p.m.

Sheriff Richard Schmidt said, “With the opioid epidemic reaching crisis proportions, our efforts to train and supply our deputies with Narcan is having an impact. Their quick response and life-saving efforts until medical professionals arrived is commendable.”

MCSO squads shut down the 84th Street on-ramp, the south-to-the-west ramp in the zoo interchange, and the Highway 100 off-ramp from I-94 westbound during the incident. All ramps re-opened at 3:05 p.m.

Deputies found drug paraphernalia in the vehicle, along with Oxycodone pills. During a hospital interview, the woman admitted to snorting $100 worth of powdered heroin prior to getting on the freeway.

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