



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Media Release

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department has completed an initial investigation of the crash involving a train and a passenger car, which occurred May 3, 2010 at the railroad crossing at Lancaster Rd. and Atlas Rd.

Preliminary investigation revealed that a 2001 Ford Focus, which was operated by Albert P. Brunner age 50 of Post Falls, Idaho, was traveling W/B on Lancaster Rd. from Atlas Rd. Brunner passed the posted stop sign and stopped with his vehicle on the railroad tracks. A train travelling N/E on the railroad tracks observed the vehicle on the tracks and began to attempt to stop. The train was unable to stop prior to the crossing and struck the Ford car at the driver side engine compartment area of the vehicle. The train pushed the Ford car approximately 1/2 mile further east prior to coming to a stop.

Emergency vehicles from the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department and Northern Lakes Fire Department arrived on scene and were able to extricate Albert Brunner from the vehicle. Brunner was transported to Kootenai Medical Center for non-life threatening injuries.

It is still unclear at this time as to why Albert Brunner's vehicle stopped on the railroad tracks and further investigation will continue.

Sheriff Rocky Watson

By Sergeant Kevin Smart
Patrol Traffic Sergeant
Case #10-09570
05-04-10