

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

By Captain Michael D. Utz
December 31, 2009

Release #1:

At approximately 10:48 p.m. on December 30, 2009, the Garden City Fire Department (GCFD), officers of the Garden City Police Department (GCPD) and Finney County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responded to a structure fire at 403 Evans, Garden City, KS.

Upon entry of the residence by the fire department through the front door, fire department personnel located a body (later identified as Ms. Linda Farmer, 61-years of age of the residence) in the living room. Ms. Farmer was removed from the residence, and was pronounced deceased at the scene by the Finney County Coroners office. Ms. Farmer was the sole occupant of the residence.

An autopsy has been ordered and is pending. No foul play is suspected, and the investigation into the cause of the fire and the estimated amount of damages to the structure will resume the morning of December 31st.

Release #2:

At approximately 5:27 p.m. on December 30, 2009, officers of the GCPD responded to 2007 Cherokee for a reported injury motor vehicle crash involving a 2009 Ford 20 passenger City Link Bus.

Investigation disclosed that Edward Deaver, 71-years of age, of 1406 Harding, Garden City, KS was driving the bus north on Cherokee. Mr. Deaver began to drift back and forth across the street. The bus drifted left of center and struck an unoccupied parked 2001 Chevrolet Malibu owned by Mr. Rito Mora of Sublette, KS. The bus then struck a 1981 Chevrolet pick up truck that was unoccupied and owned by Mr. Gilberto Resendiz of 2005 Cherokee. The bus then struck a 1997 Pontiac minivan that was unoccupied and owned by Ms. Norma Resendiz of 2005 Cherokee. The City Link Bus then came to a stop in the front yard of 2007 Cherokee. All three vehicles were legally parked southbound.

Ms. Rona Guterz, 29-years of age of 2401 W. Lincoln Road, Garden City, KS was the lone passenger on the bus. Ms. Guterz attempted to get Mr. Deaver's attention while the bus was driving erratically, but he did not respond. Ms. Guterz was examined by EMS, and released on scene.

Mr. Deaver was transported to the emergency room at St. Catherine Hospital where he was admitted. It was apparent that Mr. Deaver was having a medical condition at the time of the accident, and no citations were issued. Mr. Deaver was admitted to St. Catherine Hospital.

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