



Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Douglas Pann
Assistant Deputy Chief

DATE : December 4, 2015

Phone: 779-500-6635

ARREST RELEASE

On December 4, 2015 at about 1:30 a.m., Rockford Police officers were dispatched to a rollover crash on the east end of the Whitman Street Bridge. Upon arrival, Officers located two vehicles that had been involved in a head on collision. One of the vehicles, a Nissan Xterra, was on its passenger side. Further investigation revealed the Nissan was traveling westbound in the interchange and crossed the raised median. The other car, a Chevrolet Malibu, was eastbound on Whitman Street taking the 6th Street interchange. The Chevrolet was traveling in the medial lane. The Nissan and the Chevrolet collided head on in the medial lane. The force caused the Nissan to roll over.

The Nissan was occupied only by a driver, James Allen Jeffers, a 33 year-old South Beloit man. The Chevrolet was occupied by the driver, Alex T. Banks, a 25 year old Rockford man and Tanisha V. Gates, a 23 year-old Rockford woman. The Rockford Fire Department responded to the scene and Alex Banks was pronounced dead at the scene. James Jeffers and Tanisha Gates were transported to a local hospital where they both remain in critical condition. At this time, James Jeffers has been charged with Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Improper Lane Usage; however, additional charges are pending. The charges against James Jeffers are accusations and he should be considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Like our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/RockfordIllinoisPoliceDepartment

