



## ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING  
420 West State Street  
Rockford, Illinois 61101-1288  
815-987-5800

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CHET EPPERSON  
CHIEF OF POLICE

# TRAFFIC RELEASE

**DATE & TIME**      **04/23/13 10:59 AM**

**Bureau:**              **Field Services Bureau**

**Authorized Supervisor:**    **Lt. Dane Person**

**Phone:**                **(815) 987-5824**

**Incident:**              **Serious Motor Vehicle Crash**

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### MESSAGE

On 04/22/2013 at 6:24 PM, Rockford Police responded to a serious one vehicle crash in approximately the 500 block of North 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Upon arrival, the initial investigation indicated that a 1996 Blue Mercury Cougar had been southbound on North 6<sup>th</sup> Street from the Whitman Street bridge interchange when it left the roadway, rolling over, and striking a light pole on the east side of the street.

The driver, Samantha Mitchell (27), a Rockford resident, was transported to St. Anthony Hospital. She was treated for minor injuries and released. She was later cited for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. She was left in the custody of the Winnebago County Jail.

A 6 year old female passenger was transported to Rockford Memorial Hospital with life threatening injuries. She is listed in critical condition. Four other occupants of the vehicle were treated for various injuries at local hospitals. Their injuries are considered to be non-life threatening.

Preliminary information indicates that excessive speed and alcohol may have been factors in the crash.

The charges are merely accusations. The accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The investigation is on-going.

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