

Motorcycle Fatality On 101, Smith River Charges Filed

October 10, 2024



A 52 year old Smith River woman, Shakiyla Bryant, was arrested by the California Highway Patrol and charged with Driving Under the Influence, Murder and Manslaughter for allegedly causing an accident that took the life of Winston Luttrell of Klamath Falls, 56. Luttrell was riding his motorcycle southbound on 101 at Mouth of the Smith Road.

The suspect has two prior DUI convictions.

The incident took place, Monday evening, September 23 about 6:40 when, according to the CHP, Bryant made a left turn heading north from Mouth of the Smith Road to the 101, when Luttrell's Harley slammed into Bryant's Jeep Wrangler. The motorcycle attempted to brake but was unable to avoid the collision. The CHP Release states alcohol was a factor in the arrest of Bryant.

Traffic was diverted off 101 to Ocean View Drive for approximately three hours.

Bryant made her first Court appearance in Del Norte Superior Court Thursday, September 26. Bryant is a Licensed Vocational Nurse(LVN) working locally in Del Norte County and is represented by Attorney David Cooper. In Thursday's hearing the suspect was granted Own Recognizance(OR) no bail by Judge Robert Cochran. The Superior Court Judge implemented conditions suspect Bryant may not drive nor drink any alcohol. The arrest record for Bryant shows her blood alcohol level at the time of the accident was .18. The legal limit to operate a motor vehicle is .08.

Shakiyla Bryant will be back in Court Tuesday October 8. 1:30PM, Dept. 2.