



WHITMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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BRETT J. MYERS, SHERIFF

Media Release

Single-Vehicle Collision on Thorn Creek Road Claims Life of St. John Woman

COLFAX, WA – On August 9, 2025, at approximately 4:30 p.m., Whitman County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a single-vehicle collision on Thorn Creek Road, north of St. John, Washington, involving four occupants.

The vehicle, a 2016 Ford Flex driven by Teresa Leas, 76, of St. John, was traveling west when the driver lost control. The vehicle veered onto the shoulder, struck a culvert, and became airborne before coming to rest on its wheels.

Teresa Leas and one passenger, Sonia Leas, 50, were airlifted to Sacred Heart Medical Center via LifeFlight. The other two occupants, Richard Leas and Austin Coniber, were transported to Whitman Community Hospital, where they were treated for minor injuries and released. Tragically, Sonia Leas succumbed to her injuries during transport to Sacred Heart Medical Center.

The Whitman County Sheriff's Office is investigating the cause of the collision. Family members have been notified.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett J. Myers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brett J. Myers
Sheriff WCSO