



OFFICIAL MEDIA RELEASE

KENT COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT



Date: December 24, 2015
Complaint Number: 15-165128
Type of Incident: Fatal ORV Crash
Reporting Officer: Bill Whiting
Supervisor Approval: Sgt. Eric Rakow

****CORRECTION****

Initial information from the hospital was that Mr. Bellows was clinically deceased. At this time he is still on a ventilator. Out of respect to the family we will amend our initial press release.

On December 24, 2015 at 6:25AM the Kent County Sheriff's Department responded to an unknown injury accident on 14 Mile Road NW west of Phelps Ave NW in Sparta Township

The preliminary investigation shows that a westbound 2000 Yamaha quad driven by 23 year old Derek Bellows of Sparta was driving in the dark and hit a tree that had fallen across the roadway. Mr. Bellows was thrown from the quad and found lying in the roadway. Initial indicators are that the accident occurred between 3:00AM and 6:00AM and Mr. Bellows was not wearing a helmet. It is unknown if alcohol or excessive speed were factors in the accident.

The accident is still under investigation.