

Seven Injured After Accidents On I-70 Near Marshall

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Posted on : 2013/12/23 9:30:00

Seven people were hurt, five of them emergency personnel, in two accidents on Interstate 70 south of Marshall on Saturday afternoon.



The emergency responders were on foot at the scene of the first accident (near the Highway 65 interchange). That accident occurred as a westbound pickup truck on I-70 went out of control, traveled off the left side of the road, hit a median cable, went over the top of the guard rail, and overturned, coming to rest in the eastbound lanes of I-70.

The driver of the pickup, 56-year old Andres Ramirez, and a passenger, 55-year old Maria Ramirez, both of Hastings, Nebraska, were taken to Fitzgibbon Hospital in Marshall, with what the Highway Patrol described as SERIOUS injuries.

Both people were wearing seat belts. The pickup was demolished.

While emergency personnel were at the site, a westbound car traveled off I-70, crossed into oncoming traffic, and hit two of the emergency personnel. The car then hit the disabled pickup truck, pushing that vehicle into two additional emergency personnel members, and causing a fifth person to take evasive action in an attempt to avoid injury.

All of the injured emergency personnel are from Marshall. Thirty-four year old Andreas Enyart and 58-year old Richard Schaffer were flown by medical helicopter to University Hospital in Columbia with SERIOUS injuries. Forty-nine old Sheldon Kerksiek had MODERATE injuries where 39-year old Douglas Fesseden and 35-year old Shawn Mullins received minor injuries. Those three men were transported to Fitzgibbon Hospital in Marshall.

Fesseden is a Highway Patrolman. The other injured emergency personnel are firemen.

The driver of the car, 35-year old Timothy Perez of Maryland Heights, escaped injury. The car he was driving was extensively damaged. Perez was wearing a seat belt.