

CHARLESTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
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## Deputies investigating fatal construction vehicle crash along Savannah Highway

2024-012460

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, October 17, 2024

**NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C.** – Deputies with the Charleston County Sheriff's Office are investigating a two-vehicle collision that occurred just after 3 a.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, that resulted in a single fatality.

Deputies responded to the area of Savannah Highway and Briarcliff Drive in Charleston in reference to a collision involving two construction vehicles. During an initial investigation, it was discovered the driver of one of the construction vehicles, Kendall Hawkins, 45, of Awendaw, was traveling north on Savannah Highway, pulling a trailer with three occupants who were collecting traffic cones. Hawkins then made an illegal U-Turn to head south on Savannah Highway. In the process, Hawkins turned in front of Rockarius King, 33, of Ladson, who was driving another construction vehicle. That is when the two vehicles collided. The three passengers were ejected from the trailer and onto the road, resulting in serious injuries.

Hawkins, King, and the three passengers were transported to a local hospital for treatment. One of the passengers of the trailer later died of their injuries.

The Charleston County Coroner's Office will provide the victim's identity when appropriate.

Hawkins is charged with two counts of Felony Driving Under the Influence, while King is charged with one count of Driving Under the Influence in the First Degree and one count of having an Open Container in a Motor Vehicle.

CCSO's Traffic Services Unit is investigating the crash. Anyone with any information that would assist in the investigation is encouraged to contact the Sheriff's Office at 843-202-1700.

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