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(S.D.) - Charges Filed in Fatal Haakon County Crash

By: John Thayer Posted at: 05/03/2012 03:48 PM

PHILIP, S.D. – A Faith, S.D. man was charged Thursday with vehicular homicide, vehicular battery and DUI in connection with a two-vehicle crash that killed a Pierre woman.

Walt Taton, 63, turned himself in at the Haakon County Sheriff's Office in Philip, where he was formally charged. Taton had been hospitalized after the crash, which happened on Saturday, April 28, on S.D. Highway 34 about five miles west of Hayes.

Taton was the driver of a 2004 Ford F350 pickup that collided head-on with a 2001 Dodge Caravan. A passenger in the Caravan, Heather Unser, 28, of Pierre, died in the crash. The driver of the Caravan, Sadie Clark, 21, of Yankton, received serious but non-life threatening injuries.