



# Auburn Police Department

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## FOR IMMEDIATE MEDIA DISTRIBUTION

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### RT. 4 TRAFFIC CRASH INVESTIGATION

AUBURN, ME – On 1-4-21 at 5:08 pm, the Auburn Police responded to the area of Turner Rd. (Rt. 4) & Blanchard Rd. for a reported three vehicle crash involving a pick-up truck, an SUV and a tractor trailer truck.

A 2021 Volvo tractor trailer, driven by Ronald Smidt, 78 y/o of Kansas was making a left turn from Blanchard Rd. onto Turner Rd. when he collided with a 2005 Ford pick-up truck operated by Robert Phair Jr., 64 y/o of Livermore. Robert's brother, Roger Phair 54, y/o also of Livermore was a passenger in the pick-up truck. Upon impact with the tractor trailer, Phair's pick-up truck spun around and collided with a third vehicle. The third vehicle, a 2013 Subaru Outback, operated by Melissa McEntee, 42 y/o of Turner. McEntee sustained minor injuries and was transported to a local hospital for evaluation.

Robert Phair Jr. was seriously injured in the crash and required extrication by Auburn Fire/Rescue before he could be transported to CMMC, where he remains in serious condition. Roger Phair was not injured in the crash. The driver of the tractor trailer, Ronald Smidt was also not injured in the crash.

This crash remains under investigation. The Auburn Police Department is being assisted by the Lewiston Police Department with the crash reconstruction as well as the Maine State Police Commercial Vehicle Unit.