

Update: Child Killed In Doniphan Co Crash With Semi

(KAIR)--An 11-year-old girl is dead, and three other teens injured, following a Monday morning Doniphan County crash involving the vehicle they were traveling in and a semi.

The Kansas Highway Patrol reports it happened around 7:30, on U.S. Highway 36, 5 miles east of K-136, near Troy.

Dead is Kay-Lynn Drinkert who was a passenger in a Jeep Liberty driven by 17-year-old Wathena resident Cierra Waitt.

The Patrol says Waitt's vehicle, southbound on Randolph Road, entered the intersection of the highway, lost control, spun counter-clockwise, and re-entered the westbound lane of the highway. When that happened, her Jeep was struck head-on by the semi.

Waitt and two passengers, 15-year-old Elijah Waitt and 14-year-old Trinity Waitt, were all initially transported to Saint Joseph's Mosaic Life Care with what the Patrol identifies as disabling injuries.

Riverside School District Superintendent Mike Newman, in a statement, says Drinkert, of Wathena, was a 4th Grade student at USD 114. "We are saddened by the tragic death of a Riverside 4th grade girl today. Our hearts and prayers go out to her family and friends. We also had three high school siblings receive non-life threatening injuries with two of these students being transferred to Children's Mercy Hospital for pending surgeries. The school district will be providing counselors for students needing to talk about the accident. We ask that everyone keep all of the children and students and their families in your thoughts and prayers."

The Patrol's report states Drinkert was not wearing a seat belt, but the driver was buckled up. It remains unclear if the other two passengers were properly restrained.

The driver of the semi, 55-year-old Boonville, Missouri resident Alan Quint, was not hurt.

Although the report does not specifically state what led Waitt to lose control of her Jeep, it's known that morning roadways in the Doniphan County area were reported as slick at the time of the wreck.

The investigation is continuing.

Many Signals Communications