Charges filed in 2021 fatal Jackson Co wreck

(KNZA)--Charges have been filed against an Auburn, Kansas man in connection with a 2021 Jackson County wreck that claimed the life of a Topeka woman during law enforcement pursuit.

According to court documents, charges of first-degree murder, three felony counts of aggravated battery while driving under the influence and ten other charges were filed November 17 in Jackson County District Court against 43-year-old Robert Love, Jr.

The charges were filed following an investigation by the Kansas Highway Patrol into a two-vehicle wreck on May 27, 2021 at the intersection of 286th Road and U.S. 75 Highway about 7 miles north of Holton.

The Patrol reports Love was westbound on 286th Road, fleeing from a Jackson County Sheriff's deputy, when he failed to stop at the intersection with U.S. 75 and his car collided with a southbound SUV.

A passenger in the SUV, 26-year-old Shai Boyd, was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver of the SUV, Sara Ditch, of Topeka, and another passenger in the vehicle, Scott Ditch, of Topeka, were transported to a Topeka hospital for the treatment of suspected minor injuries. Love and a passenger in his vehicle, Ciara Evertson, of Topeka, were transported to a Topeka hospital for the treatment of suspected serious injuries.

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