

Jackson Co crash claims three from Sabetha

(KNZA)--Three are dead, and three others injured, following a two-vehicle head-on Saturday night crash in Jackson County.

The Kansas Highway Patrol identifies the dead as 42-year-old Carmen Ukele, 11-year-old Marlee Ukele, and 62-year-old Stephen Ukele, all of Sabetha.

Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse says the fatal wreck happened on U.S. Highway 75, about a mile north of K-9 Highway.

The Patrol reports that Carmen Ukele was behind the wheel of a minivan, northbound on Highway 75, when a southbound vehicle attempted to pass another.

It was then that both Ukele, and the southbound vehicle, swerved to the shoulder of the highway to avoid colliding, but, instead, struck head-on.

Injured was a passenger in Ukele's vehicle, identified as 59-year-old Lee Ukele, of Sabetha, who was flown by helicopter to the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City, Kansas for the treatment of what the Patrol calls disabling injuries.

Also flown to the Kansas City hospital were the driver of the southbound vehicle, 48-year-old Omaha, Nebraska resident Maria Perez-Marquez, and her passenger, 29-year-old Rosalao Perez, of Saint Joseph, Missouri, both with disabling injuries.

The fatal wreck, which happened shortly after 8:00 Saturday night, remains under investigation.

Sheriff Morse says the Netawaka, Holton, Whiting, Hoyt and Kickapoo Fire Departments responded to the scene, as did Jackson County EMS and Lifestar.

Many Signals Communicatons