



News from the Shelby County Sheriff's Office

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May 2, 2009

Drunk Driver Crashes Into Sheriff's Cruiser



Martin Centeno

A Sheriff's Deputy was hurt tonight when a pickup truck crashed into his cruiser in North Shelby County. Just after 7 o'clock, Deputy Charles Wallace was driving to a home in the 4500 block Lock of Cedar Leaf Cove. An ambulance had been called for a sick infant.

Due to the rainy weather, Deputy Wallace did not turn on his blue lights or siren.

As he drove south on Raleigh-Millington near Sykes Road, a pickup truck going north on Raleigh-Millington suddenly turned left and crashed into the driver's side door of the squad car.

The impact sent the cruiser off the road and into a field. Deputy Wallace suffered a cut to his head which required several stitches. He remains at the Regional Medical Center in stable condition.

Investigators say the driver of the pickup, Martin Centeno, 43, of Millington, had been drinking. A Metro DUI Squad Deputy said Centeno's blood alcohol content was **.134**. Those driving **.08** are considered impaired.

Centeno was not hurt. He was taken to the Shelby County Jail and charged with Driving Under the Influence and Failing to Exercise Due Care. There were no passengers in his truck.

(End of Release)