



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Thursday January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Public Information Release**

At approximately 0432 a.m. on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, The Romeoville Police Department was dispatched to a 3-vehicle crash on Interstate 55 near Illinois Route 126. The preliminary investigation determined that a red Ford Fusion, driven by 20-year old Johnathan Wenzel of Romeoville was traveling westbound on Frontage Rd., crashed through the I-55 sound barrier wall and came to rest on northbound I-55. 2-vehicles traveling north on I-55 were unable to avoid the red ford and collided with the vehicle. One of the occupants from the secondary impact was transported to Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital and was subsequently airlifted to University of Chicago Medicine Hospital with serious, but non-life-threatening injuries. Wenzel succumbed to his injuries on scene. The cause of the accident remains under investigation by the Romeoville Police Department; however, initial evidence indicates speed was one contributing factor. Anyone with information regarding the crash is asked to contact the Romeoville Police Department Traffic Division.