

Wrong-Way Driver In 2012 Deadly Crash Released From Prison



CREATED Nov 14, 2014

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The wrong-way driver involved in a two-vehicle crash on Interstate 65 that killed a Williamson County woman has been released from prison.

Rebecca Benson was scheduled for release Friday morning, but remained in jail until later on in the afternoon.

She was convicted two years ago in a collision that killed 29-year-old Steffanie Leonard, of Franklin, in February of 2012.

The 25-year-old will be on probation for the next eight years and will have to wear an alcohol monitoring device for six months. As part of her probation, she will not be allowed to drive a car and has to perform 80-hours of community service per-year for the next eight years.

Benson also has to speak to high school and college students about the dangers of drinking and driving three times a year for five years.

Police said Benson was driving the wrong way on I-65 around 4 a.m. when she hit Leonard's van head-on. Leonard died at the scene.

Investigators said Benson admitted to drinking prior to the collision.

Her attorney, David Raybin, said in a statement to NewsChannel 5, "Ms. Leonard's family has forgiven Rebecca. She appreciates that tremendously and will honor Ms. Leonard by talking to young people, hoping they can all learn from this tragedy."

Copyright 2014 NewsChannel 5

Copyright 2014 NewsChannel 5

