



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



MICHAEL L. RAMSEY
District Attorney

FRANCISCO R. ZARATE
Chief Deputy District Attorney

RICHARD WEST
Chief Investigator

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
March 27, 2013

Paradise Man Pleads Nolo to Fatal Hit-and-Run

A 57-year-old Paradise man plead no contest today to a felony charge of hit-and-run causing the death of a 73-year-old man who was crossing the road after choir practice at a Paradise Church. Timothy McCollum was scheduled for a preliminary hearing in Butte County Superior Court today, but instead entered his plea admitting the February 14, 2013 crime.

District Attorney Mike Ramsey said Myron Bolstead, 73, was crossing Clark Road after finishing choir practice at the Paradise Alliance Church, 6491 Clark Road, about 8:45 p.m. Ramsey said there were no witnesses to the collision but Bolstead's body was found on the opposite side of the road by passerby's approximately 9:00 p.m. He was pronounced dead at the scene from massive blunt force trauma consistent with being struck by a car.

Vehicle parts including a passenger side rearview mirror was recovered from the scene by Paradise Police investigators and a press release asking the public to be on the alert for a car with front end damage was put out. On February 22, 2013, citizens noted McCollum's blue 1998 Mercury in the parking lot of a Paradise café. The car had right front end damage, hood damage, a broken windshield and was missing its passenger side rearview mirror. Police brought the mirror recovered from the crime scene and it fit perfectly to McCollum's car.

McCollum was contacted and in an interview with the police he said he remembered running "into a dog" about a week before on Clark Road, but didn't stop because of traffic. Ramsey said police and prosecutors disbelieved his "dog story" based on the amount of damage to the hood, windshield and mirror. McCollum was taken into custody and remained at Butte County Jail until today.

Ramsey said after the plea was taken McCollum was released from custody by the judge over the prosecutor's strenuous objections. The judge ordered McCollum to return to court for sentencing on May 22, 2013. While on release, the judge ordered that McCollum was not to drive. He faces up to four years in state prison.