



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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PRESS RELEASE

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Correctional Deputy Facing Charges in Off-Duty DUI Collision

A Butte County Jail Correctional Deputy faces felony DUI charges after a multi-car collision on Mangrove Avenue in Chico in April of this year.

Andrew Gertz, 42, was additionally charged this week with a separate enhancement on the DUI charges alleging great bodily injury to the driver of one of the vehicles he rear-ended on Mangrove Avenue. Gertz is employed by the Butte County Sheriff's Office assigned to the jail but was not on duty at the time of the incident.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey noted the charges stem from an April 24, 2023, collision around 6:30 p.m. Gertz was driving southbound on a five-lane portion of Mangrove Avenue in Chico when he rear-ended two vehicles also going south – one in a center-turn lane and one in the far-right lane. The vehicle in the turn lane was occupied by a couple and their seven-year-old granddaughter. The driver of that vehicle sustained severe injuries in the collision. The other victims had minor injuries as did the driver of the vehicle in the right lane.

Ramsey stated when Chico Police officers responded to the collision, they noted Gertz displayed signs and symptoms consistent with being under the influence of drugs/alcohol. A DUI investigation was conducted and Gertz was subsequently arrested for DUI with injuries. Initial blood tests established a .07 blood alcohol level approximately an hour after the collision. Further blood tests are pending for the presence of suspected sleep medication.

Gertz is scheduled to be arraigned in Butte County Superior Court on Friday, June 23, 2023. Ramsey said Gertz is facing up to nine years in state prison if convicted.