



Sheriff  
Dan Altena  
Sioux County Sheriff's Office  
4363 Ironwood Ave., Ste. 1  
Orange City, IA 51041

**PRESS RELEASE**

**9/4/18 12:00 pm**

On Saturday, September 1, at 5:29 a.m., the Sioux County Sheriff's Office investigated a motor vehicle accident that occurred on Highway 75, one mile south of Sioux Center, IA.

Karina Gonzalez, age 24, of Sioux Center was driving a 2016 Chevrolet Malibu northbound on Highway 75. Raymundo Ramirez, age 21, of Rock Valley, IA was driving a 2012 Chevrolet Camaro northbound on Highway 75 behind Gonzalez when he struck the Malibu.

A passenger in the Malibu, Merlin Ascencio, age 49, of South Sioux City, NE was transported by the Sioux Center Ambulance to the Sioux Center Hospital for treatment of minor injuries.

The Malibu sustained approximately \$500 in damage. The Camaro sustained approximately \$2,000 in damage.

The deputy suspected that Ramirez was under the influence of alcohol.

Ramirez was arrested and charged with operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and following too close.

The Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Sioux Center Ambulance, Sioux Center Fire Department and Sioux Center Police Department.

