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Press Release

Thursday, November 8, 2007

On Thursday November 8, 2007 at 3:51 PM, Milton Police were called to a motor vehicle accident involving a school bus and a pickup truck. The accident occurred on the Westford Road just past Clay Ridge Road.

Investigation revealed that a First Student school bus was making a left hand turn when it was struck by a pickup truck that was attempting to pass the school bus.

Leonard Couture, age 58 of Westford, was operating his 1994 Ford pickup truck east on the Westford Road and came up behind a 2003 International school bus being operated by Suzanne Page, age 40 of Fairfax. The school bus was intending to turn left off Westford Road to turn around and return to the village. At this time Couture then attempted to pass the school bus on the left.

The right front of Couture's pickup truck struck the left side of the school bus. Both vehicles each sustained an estimated \$2,000 damage.

The school bus was transporting 29 students home from school at the time. None of the students or operators of both vehicles were injured.

Officials from Milton School District and First Student bus company responded to the scene to coordinate transportation for the students and notification to the parents. A replacement school bus was brought to the scene and the students were loaded onto that bus to continue their trip home.

A Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles inspector responded to the scene and conducted a safety inspection of the school bus. No defects were found in the safety inspection.

Investigating officer Tom DuPont concluded that Couture was at fault in this accident and he was issued a traffic ticket for improper passing.

Press Release Authorized by
Sgt. John Palasik on 11/08/07.