**NEWS RELEASE**

On June 30, 2015 at 11:36 PM, the Joplin Police Department responded to 1501 S. Range Line in reference to a vehicular assault. Officers determined that there had been a verbal disturbance between the occupants of a vehicle and a small, but of indeterminate number, group of teenagers. After a brief verbal exchange, the group of teens entered Wal-Mart. Shortly thereafter, the teens returned to the parking lot and the vehicle was seen circling the lot and ultimately it was driven directly at the group of pedestrians.

Two victims were struck by the vehicle. An eighteen year old male victim suffered serious physical injuries and was transported by private vehicle to Freeman. The suspect vehicle fled the scene.

The investigation is ongoing.

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