

A woman was airlifted to Johnson City Medical Center after a Saturday night car accident that Avery County Sheriff Kevin Frye called “suspicious.”

A car slid up against a guardrail near Landharbor on Richard Childress Road, Frye said. A Gastonia woman was found 20 feet away from the car in an embankment. At this point, Frye is investigating how the woman ended up in the embankment after a collision he calls “mild.” According to Frye, there may be more to the story than a car accident. **The driver of the vehicle, 43-year-old Douglas Fleming from Gastonia, was charged with driving while impaired. The incident is being investigated and more charges may be pending against Fleming. At this time, Frye does not wish to release the identity of the woman found on the scene, but does say her injuries are “very serious.”**