

Jury trial set for woman charged in fatal crash

(KNZA)--A jury trial has been set for an Omaha, Nebraska woman accused of killing three members of a Sabetha family and injuring two others in a 2017 Jackson County head-on collision.

Jackson County Attorney Shawna Miller told MSC News that 49-year-old Maria Perez-Marquez pleaded not guilty Friday to three counts of involuntary manslaughter, two counts of aggravated battery and one count of reckless driving.

Miller says a three-day trial was set, beginning May 1.

The Kansas Highway Patrol says Perez-Marquez was driving a sport utility vehicle the evening of November 25, 2017 on U.S. 75 Highway when she attempted to pass another vehicle, leading to the fatal crash.

Killed were Carmen Ukele; her daughter, Marlee; and brother-in-law, Stephen. Carmen's husband, Lee, was seriously injured. Also injured was a passenger in the Perez-Marquez vehicle.

Perez-Marquez remains free on bond.

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