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ROSEBURG, Ore. -- Charges have been filed against Oregon's First Strike Environmental, the company that employed eight Oregon firefighters who died in a summer van crash.

Court records show that the driver of the van had a blood-alcohol level nearly double the legal limit.

Court papers shed light on what may have caused the deadly van crash on Aug. 24. Malheur County prosecutors say the eight firefighters first stopped at a Texaco station in Cascade, Idaho. They filled their tanks and then went inside to buy beer.

The owners of the station are cooperating with investigators.

"They're planning to meet with deputies Monday of this week to answer questions and pull business records showing the alcohol that was purchased and the time that they were at their store," Malheur County District Attorney Dan Norris said.

Norris says the team then headed west on Interstate 84 towards Oregon, eventually making their second stop for more beer at a Chevron in Vale, Ore. Minutes later, they were in a wreck that killed everyone on board.

"The alcohol consumption had to be going on for quite sometime before they got to Vale in order to reach the level that some of the passengers and the driver had in their blood stream," Norris said.

In an affidavit, the state says the driver of the van, 23-year-old Mark Ransdell had a blood-alcohol level of .13, well above Oregon's legal limit of .08.

Formal charges were filed Thursday against First Strike Environmental, the Roseburg, Ore., contract firefighting firm that hired the men.

The charges against First Strike include one count of drunken driving, one count of reckless driving and 18 counts of reckless endangerment.

An attorney representing the company calls the charges "ludicrous."