Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Collision

Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal motor vehicle collision that occurred in the Middletown area on early Saturday morning.

On October 15, 2022, at approximately 4:23 a.m., a 2005 Dodge Ram 1500 was traveling southbound on South Dupont Highway (Route 13). At the time, a 2018 Ford F-150 was traveling northbound on Route 13 within the left lane of travel and was proceeding north from the intersection with Hyetts Corner Road. In the area north of the Route 1 overpass the Dodge, for unknown reasons, left the roadway and entered into the grass median. The Dodge proceeded across the grass median and entered into the left lane of Route 13 northbound, directly into the path of the Ford. The Dodge struck the front and driver side of Ford for a point of impact. The Dodge then came to rest within the left lane of northbound Route 13 and the Ford came to a rest within the right shoulder of northbound Route 13.

The 24-year-old operator of the Dodge and 26-year-old front seat passenger were not wearing their seatbelts. Both occupants sustained serious injuries and were transported to an area hospital. Impairment on part of the operator is pending further investigation.

The 67-year-old operator of the Ford, who was wearing his seatbelt, was pronounced deceased at the scene of the collision. Identification of the victim is pending notification to the next of kin.

Route 13 was closed for approximately four hours while the collision was investigated, and the roadway was cleared.

The Delaware State Police Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction

Unit continues to investigate this incident. Troopers are asking anyone who witnessed this collision to please contact Master Corporal Breen by calling 302-365-8486. Information may also be provided by contacting **Delaware Crime Stoppers** at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.delawarecrimestoppers.com.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of a crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and need assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit / **Delaware Victim Center** is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll-free hotline at 1-800-VICTIM-1 (1-800-842-8461). You may also email the Victim Services Unit at **DSP_VictimServicesMail@delaware.gov**.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Jason Hatchell

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