

# **\*Update – Victim Identified\***

## **State Police Arrest Man for Murder**

Delaware State Police have identified the victim of the homicide that occurred on December 20, 2022, in Magnolia as **Robert Mujica**, 42, of Magnolia, Delaware.

### [State Police Arrest Man for Murder](#)

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](mailto:DSP_VictimServicesMail@delaware.gov).

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Leonard DeMalto

Released: 122222 1204

-End-

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## **State Police Investigating Fatal Single-Vehicle Accident**

The Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal accident that occurred in the Dover area yesterday afternoon.

On December 21, 2022, at approximately 12:57 p.m., a 2003 light green Subaru Legacy was traveling southbound on Bayside Drive south of Pickering Beach Road. For unknown reasons, the driver failed to negotiate a left-to-right curve in the roadway. As a result, the Subaru exited the east edge of the road. The driver overcorrected her steering, leading to her car reentering the road while spinning clockwise. The Legacy continued forward until it exited the west edge of the roadway, where it subsequently rolled over and came to rest.

The driver of the Subaru, an 18-year-old woman from Woodside, Delaware, was taken to an area hospital by ambulance. She sustained non-life-threatening injuries, and it is unclear if she was wearing her seatbelt. The passenger in the Subaru, a

20-year-old man from Woodside, Delaware, was not wearing his seatbelt. He sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene. Identification is pending notification to his family and relatives.

No other vehicles were involved in this accident. Bayside Drive was closed for approximately 3.5 hours while the scene was investigated and cleared.



The Delaware State Police Troop 3 Collision Reconstruction Unit continues to investigate this incident. Troopers are asking anyone who witnessed this collision to please contact Master Corporal W. Booth by calling 302-698-8451. Information may also be provided by contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at [www.delawarecrimestoppers.com](http://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](mailto:DSP_VictimServicesMail@delaware.gov).

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Released: 122222 1116

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# It's Lovely Weather for a Sleigh Ride Together – Holiday Safety Travel Tips

The Delaware State Police hope that everyone is going to have the safest and hap-hap-happiest Christmas and holiday season this year. Before families kick off their fun, old-fashioned family adventure by heading out into the country in the old front-wheel drive sleigh to embrace the frosty majesty of the winter landscape, Troopers are offering the following holiday travel checklist:

- Plan your trip before you embark on your journey. Map out how you will get there and how you will return home. Then it's happy trails, Hans! Yippee-ki-yay!
- Make sure your car is mechanically sound. Check all fluid levels and tire air pressure readings, including the spare tire. It's not a bad little car. It's not bad at all, really. Maybe it just needs a little love.
- Look into road and weather conditions to see if your car can handle them. Inclement weather can leave you stranded or lost in New York.
- Lock the house doors and set the alarm system. Place lights and "fragile" leg lamps on timers.
- Do not use your cell phone while driving. A screen light shouldn't guide your sleigh tonight.
- Take a break every few hours to stretch and refocus. Maybe snack on some pudding or some carved roast beast.
- If you stop at a rest stop, park in a well-lit area, stay with your children, and be aware of your surroundings. Don't let Kevin wander on his own.
- When your car is parked, lock the doors and don't leave any valuables or gifts in sight. The Grinch may be nearby, staring down from his cave with a sour grinchy frown, at the warm lighted windows below in the town.

- Do not drive impaired. If you've been drinking, call a friend, family member, or ride-sharing service. If you're driving, avoid consuming alcohol. Instead, be sure to drink your Ovaltine.
- Avoid posting updates on your location on social media. Harry and Marv will know that no one is home and may try to break in. Save the photo dumps for when you get back.

Ensuring that all these points are checked can prevent a family trip from being jeopardized. The "obvious" things can be easily overlooked – wouldn't it be quite the bulbous blunder to meticulously check thousands of tiny twinkling lights, only to discover the extension cord was plugged in and the light switch was off?

And when it comes to safety, there's always time to double-check. Even if you still have to brush your teeth, feed the hog, still got some homework to do, still got those bills to pay – make the time! This isn't charity – it's family.

From Atlantic to Pacific – travel safely and enjoy the holiday season!

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Released: 122222 0810

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## **State Police Investigating Gas Station Robbery**

The Delaware State Police are investigating an attempted gas station robbery that occurred in Laurel early this morning.

On December 21, 2022, at approximately 1:35 a.m., troopers responded to the Royal Farms located at 30983 Sussex Highway regarding an attempted robbery that had just occurred. Troopers learned that an unknown suspect had entered the store and presented the cashier with a note demanding money and implying that he had a gun. The cashier did not comply, and the suspect fled the store on foot. Troopers attempted to locate the suspect in the surrounding area but were unable to do so. The cashier was not injured in this incident.

The suspect is described as a black male wearing dark clothing. He was last seen running eastbound from the Royal Farms.

The Delaware State Police Troop 4 Major Crimes Unit continues

to investigate this case. Troopers are asking anyone who witnessed this incident to please contact Detective L. Coleman by calling 302-752-3813. Information may also be provided by contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at [www.delawarecrimestoppers.com](http://www.delawarecrimestoppers.com).

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Leonard DeMalto

Released: 122122 1400

-End-

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# **\*Traffic Advisory\* State Police On-Scene of a Fatal Collision**

The Delaware State Police are currently at the scene of a fatal motor vehicle collision that occurred on Bayside Drive in the area of Pickering Beach Road in Dover. Bayside Drive will be closed from South Little Creek Road to Bergold Lane for an extended period of time. Motorists are urged to seek alternate routes of travel to avoid delays.

Additional details about the collision will be released once more information becomes available.

For updated road closure information and traffic conditions, please visit the [DelDOT Travel Advisories website](#).

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Released: 122122 1354

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# One Man Arrested, One Woman Wanted for Felony Shoplifting

Delaware State Police have arrested 40-year-old **Phillip Plummer** of Dover, Delaware for felony shoplifting and other charges following an investigation that began in Dover last week.

On December 15, 2022, troopers responded to the Walmart located at 36 Jerome Drive regarding a shoplifting that had occurred earlier in the day. Troopers learned that a male suspect, later identified as Phillip Plummer, had left the store through an emergency exit without paying for a cart full of merchandise. A similar incident had also occurred on December 12, 2022, where the same suspect had left the store with a cart full of unpaid items. This time, the suspect was accompanied by a female, who was later identified as 41-year-

old **Angela Hoffman** of Dover, Delaware.

On December 19, 2022, troopers again responded to Walmart for a report of a shoplifting. It was discovered that Plummer had attempted to push a full cart out of the store's emergency exit but was apprehended by loss prevention. Plummer was taken into custody by troopers and was found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia. Hoffman had been accompanying Plummer this time as well, but she fled the scene prior to police arrival.

Plummer was transported to Troop 9, where he was charged with the following crimes:

- Shoplifting Over \$1,500 (Felony)
- Conspiracy Second Degree (Felony)
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Criminal Trespass Third Degree

Plummer was arraigned by Justice of the Peace Court # 2 and was released on his own recognizance.

Angela Hoffman is currently wanted on felony charges of Shoplifting Over \$1,500 and Conspiracy Second Degree. Troopers are asking anyone who has information regarding Hoffman's whereabouts to contact Trooper First Class N. Valenti of Delaware State Police Troop 9 at 302-378-5749, or by calling 9-1-1. Information may also be provided by contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at [www.delawarecrimestoppers.com](http://www.delawarecrimestoppers.com).

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Leonard DeMalto

Released: 122122 1303

-End-

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## **\*Update- Victim identified\* Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision**

Delaware State Police have identified the victim who died in a fatal motor vehicle collision that occurred on December 16, 2022, in the New Castle area as **Matthew Scully**, 36, of Newark, Delaware.

[Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision](#)

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 J. 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](http://www.delawarecrimestoppers.com).

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Jason Hatchell

Released: 122122 1158

-End-

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# State Police Arrest Man for Murder

The Delaware State Police have arrested 27-year-old **Gadiel Haro** of Magnolia, Delaware for murder and other charges following an investigation that began early Tuesday morning.

On December 20, 2022, at approximately 12:26 a.m., troopers responded to the 400 block of Stevenson Drive in Magnolia regarding a physical altercation. Upon their arrival, troopers discovered that Gadiel Haro had been involved in a dispute with his girlfriend, a 26-year-old woman from Magnolia, Delaware. During the dispute, Haro assaulted his girlfriend while in the presence of a 3-year-old juvenile and 6-year-old juvenile. The children ran from the house and asked for help from their neighbor, a 42-year-old man from Magnolia, Delaware. The neighbor responded to Haro's home, and Haro began intentionally choking the victim, causing him to fall unconscious.

The victim was pronounced deceased at the scene. Identification is pending notification to his family and relatives. Troopers took Haro into custody without incident and transported him to Troop 3, where he was charged with the following crimes:

- Murder Second Degree (Felony)
- Strangulation (Felony)
- Endangering the Welfare of a Child (2 counts)

- Offensive Touching

Haro was arraigned by Justice of the Peace Court # 2 and committed to Sussex Correctional Institution on \$1,007,500 cash bond.

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](mailto:DSP_VictimServicesMail@delaware.gov).

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Released: 122122 1117

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# Troopers Arrest Man for 6th Offense DUI

The Delaware State Police have arrested 57-year-old **George Elliott** of Ocean View, Delaware for sixth-offense DUI following a traffic stop that occurred in Lincoln last night.

On December 20, 2022, at approximately 9:05 p.m., a trooper on patrol observed a 2018 black Ford pickup truck traveling northbound on Dupont Boulevard in the area of East Hudson Pond Road. The trooper observed as the truck driver failed to maintain travel within a single lane, and a traffic stop was conducted. The trooper contacted the driver, identified as George Elliott, and detected signs of impairment. A DUI investigation ensued, and Elliott was subsequently taken into custody without incident. A computer check of Elliott revealed that he had five prior DUI convictions.

Elliott was transported to Troop 5 and charged with 6<sup>th</sup> Offense DUI and other traffic offenses. Elliott was arraigned by Justice of the Peace Court # 3 and committed to Sussex Correctional Institution on \$5,101 cash bond.

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Released: 122122 1112

-End-

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## **\*Traffic Advisory\* Delaware State Police Investigating Serious Collision**

Delaware State Police are currently on the scene of a serious motor vehicle collision on North DuPont Highway (Route 13) in the New Castle area. As a result, southbound Route 13 is closed in the area of Fernwood Avenue for an extended period. Motorists are urged to seek alternate routes of travel to avoid delays. This collision is in the early stages of the investigation. Additional details will be released once they become available.

For updated road closure information and traffic conditions,  
log on to:

[Travel Advisories – Delaware Department of Transportation  
\(deldot.gov\)](http://deldot.gov)

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Released: 122122 0814

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