

Delaware State Police Conducting Death Investigation

Seaford, DE- The Delaware State Police Homicide Unit is currently conducting a Death Investigation that occurred on March 16, 2022. At 6:50 a.m., Troopers responded to the report of a vehicle fire on a property in the 10000 block of Airport Road in Seaford. Upon arrival, they observed a vehicle fully engulfed in flames. Troopers located the body of a male in a nearby ditch. The victim, a 54 year old male from Seaford, was pronounced dead at the scene. The victim was turned over to the Division of Forensic Science for an autopsy. The name of the victim is being withheld pending next of kin notification. If you have any information regarding this incident, please contact Detective Daniel Grassi at (302) 365-8441 or daniel.grassi@delaware.gov. Information may also be provided by sending a private message through Facebook Messenger to the Delaware State Police.

-Presented by: Master Corporal Heather Pepper

-Released: 031622 2111

-End-

Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash— Millsboro

Millsboro- Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal motor vehicle crash that occurred late Tuesday night on eastbound Millsboro Highway (Route 24) in the area of Revel Road.

On Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at approximately 11:21 p.m., a 2004 Ford Explorer operated by a 26-year-old female of Millsboro was traveling eastbound on Millsboro Highway (Route 24) just west of Revel Road. At this time, a 2006 Honda CRV operated by a 53-year-old female of Salisbury, MD was traveling westbound on Millsboro Highway in the same area.

While the Ford was traveling eastbound its right side struck a deer within the lane of travel. After impact with the deer, the Ford continued eastbound, but for unknown reasons crossed over the center line. The front of the Ford then struck the front of the Honda in the westbound lane of travel. After impact, the Ford rotated approximately 180 degrees before coming to rest in the eastbound lane of travel. The Honda was re-directed off the north edge of the roadway where it came to rest in an open field.

The 26-year-old operator of the Ford who not restrained was transported to Beebe Hospital with minor injuries.

The 53-year-old operator of the Honda who was properly restrained, was pronounced deceased at the scene of the collision. Identification of the victim is pending notification to the next of kin.

The roadway was closed for approximately 4 hours while the investigation was completed, and the roadway was cleared.

This collision remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police Troop 7 Collision Reconstruction Unit. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or has any information is asked to contact Corporal/1 Smith at 302-703-3267. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at <http://www.delawarecrimestoppers.com>.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of 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 1800 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

Released 031622 1345

-End-

***UPDATE* SUNDAY MORNING CRIME SPREE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES AND TROOPERS SEEK PUBLIC'S HELP**

New Castle, DE- The Delaware State Police continue their investigation into an early Sunday morning crime spree and are asking for the public's help.

On March 13, 2022, **Brittallia Semaan, 30, of New Castle**, was arrested for two carjacking's, kidnapping, and multiple collisions, including a fatal pedestrian crash. As this investigation continues, detectives are seeking information from anyone who may have been in or around the SR9 corridor between 8:45 a.m.- 9:30 a.m., with potential videos, witness information, or were potential victims to contact Detective Bridget Harris with the Delaware State Police Troop 2 Criminal Investigations Unit by calling 302-365-8410. Information may also be provided by sending a Private Facebook Message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.delawarecrimestoppers.com

[*UPDATE #3* Suspect Charged with Kidnapping, Carjackings, Fatal Pedestrian Crash and Crashes](#)

[*UPDATE #2* Investigation Continues into Carjackings and Fatal Pedestrian Crash](#)

[*UPDATE- Delaware State Police Investigate Fatal Pedestrian Collision Caused by Carjacking Suspect](#)

[Traffic Advisory- Multiple Roadways in New Castle Closed for Crashes](#)

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 1800 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, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 031622 0001

-End-

***UPDATE- Delaware State Police Investigate Fatal Pedestrian Collision Caused by Carjacking Suspect**

New Castle— Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal pedestrian collision that occurred Sunday morning in New Castle.

On Sunday March 13, 2022, at approximately 9:34 a.m., Brittalia Semaan, 30, of New Castle, was operating a stolen 2018 Chevrolet Trax southbound on Route 9 in the area of Boothurst Boulevard. At this time, a pedestrian later identified as Joseph Stanavich, 47, of New Castle was walking southbound on the right shoulder of Route 9, just south of

Boothhurst Boulevard. The Trax which was traveling at a high-rate of speed, for unknown reasons left the right lane of travel and struck the pedestrian within the right shoulder. After the collision, Semaan fled southbound on Route 9 in the stolen Chevrolet Trax. Semaan was subsequently apprehended in the area of Route 9 and Hamburg Road after a separate collision.

Stanavich was transported to a nearby hospital by EMS, where he succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased. Identification of the victim is pending notification to next of kin.

Semaan was not injured in the crash and was transported to Troop 2 where she was charged with Vehicular Homicide 2nd Degree (Felony), Leaving the Scene of a Collision Resulting in Death (Felony), Failing to Report a Collision Resulting in Death, and Failing to Maintain Lane of Travel.

Semaan was arraigned in the Justice of the Peace Court #11 and committed to the Delores J. Baylor Correctional Institution on \$47,000 cash bond.

This case remains an active investigation by the Delaware State Police Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit. Anyone with information regarding this crash is asked to contact Cpl/3 John Breen by calling 302-365-8486 or emailing john.breen@delaware.gov. Information may also be provided by sending a Private Facebook Message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at <http://delawarecrimestoppersweb.com/>

Please see attached updates below for additional information on related incidents and charges.

[*UPDATE* Troopers Investigating Two Carjacking's, Fatal Pedestrian Crash and Multiple Crashes With Suspect in Custody](#)

[*UPDATE #2* Investigation Continues into Carjacking's](#)

[and Fatal Pedestrian Crash](#)

[*UPDATE #3* Suspect Charged with Kidnapping, Carjacking’s, Fatal Pedestrian Crash and Crashes](#)

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Jason Hatchell

Released: 031422 1307

-End-

Delaware State Police

S.O.A.R. Searching for Wanted Sex Offenders

Dover – Delaware State Police Sex Offender Apprehension and Registration Unit (S.O.A.R) is currently looking for the following wanted [sex offenders](#) after they either failed to register or re-register their current address. If anyone knows the location of these subjects, they are asked to call 302-672-5306. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the www.delawarecrimestoppers.com.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 031322 2307

-End-

Homeless Sex Offender Notification

Dover– The following subjects are **not wanted**. This is a Homeless [Sex Offender](#) Public Notification. If you have information that the listed subjects are occupying a residence, please call 302-672-5306. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at www.delawarecrimestoppers.com.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 031322 2255

-End-

UPDATE

Troopers

Investigating Two Carjacking's, Fatal Pedestrian Crash and Multiple Crashes With Suspect in Custody

New Castle, DE- The Delaware State Police are currently investigating an incident where a suspect carjacked two vehicles and was involved in multiple collisions, involving a fatal pedestrian crash before being taken into custody.

At approximately 9:30 A.M., troopers were called to the 4000 block of New Castle Ave (Rt 9) for a reported carjacking. Initial reports from the scene indicated a female subject allegedly car jacked a victim and fled southbound on Rt. 9. Moments later, the suspect, still in the initial stolen vehicle, struck a pedestrian in the area of Rt 9 and Boothhurst Blvd. The pedestrian was pronounced dead at the scene. The suspect continued to flee, and struck another pedestrian, causing minor injuries, in Old New Castle in the area South Street and 6th Street. She fled the scene and was involved in another collision on Washington Street. The suspect committed a second carjacking at this location, and kidnapped an adult victim who was still in the car. The suspect fled to southbound River Road where she ultimately crashed again in the area of Hamburg Rd. An off-duty police officer and a former law enforcement officer, who witnessed part of the incident, apprehended the suspect at the final crash scene. Troopers arrived on scene and took the suspect into custody without further incident. This is preliminary information and further details will be released when known and confirmed.

We appreciate the public's continued patience and understanding as we work diligently to investigate this incident.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 031322 1443

-End-

Traffic Advisory- Multiple Roadways in New Castle Closed for Crashes

New Castle, DE- Delaware State Police are currently conducting multiple accident investigations in New Castle County. As a result, the following roadways are closed:

- River Rd (Rte 9) at Federal School Lane, New Castle
- Intersection of SR 141 and SR 273, New Castle

- Castle Hill Drive to Edgewood Drive, New Castle
- Hamburg Rd off of Rt 13
- Rt 9 at Hamburg Road

Motorists should use alternate routes of travel to avoid delays. Additional information will be released regarding these crashes once it becomes available.

Presented by: Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 031322 1055

-End-

Delaware State Police Launches App to Focus on Officer Wellness

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***DELAWARE
STATE POLICE***

Dover, DE- Delaware State Police Superintendent, Colonel Melissa A. Zebley, announced today the Delaware State Police launched a customized and confidential wellness app called the "DSP Wellness App".

The "DSP Wellness App" is designed to help with mental health support and overall well-being for our civilian and sworn employees, employees families, and our retirees.

"We all realized that mental and physical wellness is critical to a professional and successful police agency," Colonel Zebley stated. Troopers and civilian personnel are exposed to traumatic incidents at much higher rates than the general population making them more susceptible to mental health issues. This app offers confidential access to the employee assistance program, therapists, chaplain support, as well as resources and self-assessments for those individuals dealing with issues such as alcoholism, depression, emotional health, family support, finances, fitness, sleep optimization, and stress management.

These expanded resources on over 60 topics provide employee counseling services and 24/7 mental health care along with other mental and physical wellness tools.

The Delaware State Police remain committed to the overall wellness of all of our employees, both sworn and civilian and are excited to provide the "DSP Wellness App" as another tool available at their disposal.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Jason Hatchell

Released: 031122 1627

Troopers Investigate a Fatal Single Vehicle Crash - Millsboro

Millsboro, DE— Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal single-vehicle crash that occurred Thursday night in the Millsboro area.

On March 10, 2022, at approximately 9:18 p.m., a 2009 Nissan Versa operated by a 58-year-old Parsonsburg, MD woman was traveling north on Lowes Crossing Rd just south of Carey's Camp Rd, approaching a sharp left-hand curve in the road. For an unknown reason, the driver failed to negotiate the curve and exited the east edge of the road before overcorrecting and losing control. The Nissan then re-entered Lowes Crossing Rd and began to slide sideways across both lanes of travel. It then exited the west edge of the road, struck a mailbox, and continued sliding before the left side collided into an unoccupied home in the 19000 block of Lowes Crossing Rd, causing minor damage.

The 58-year-old Parsonsburg, MD woman, was transported by EMS to an area hospital, where she died from her injuries during the early morning hours of March 11, 2022. Identification is

pending notification to next of kin.

Lowes Crossing Road was closed for approximately 2 hours while the on-scene investigation was completed.

The Delaware State Police Troop 7 Collision Reconstruction Unit continue to investigate this crash. Anyone with information regarding the collision is asked to contact Cpl/1 James Smith by calling 302-703-3267. Information may also be provided by sending a Private Facebook Message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.delawarecrimestoppers.com

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 031122 1515

-End-

