

# State Police Investigating After Teenager Shot in Middletown

The Delaware State Police is investigating a shooting that injured a teenager Tuesday night in Middletown.

On December 9, 2025, at approximately 8:30 p.m., Delaware State Police and the Middletown Police Department responded to a business in the 600 block of Middletown Odessa Road, for a report of a teen who had been shot. The preliminary investigation revealed a 17-year-old was driving a Nissan Altima with two other teens in the car. As they traveled eastbound on State Route 299, another unknown dark-colored sedan followed them. When the teenagers entered the ramp connecting Route 299 to Route 1 southbound, the sedan drove around the teenagers and someone in the sedan fired multiple shots, hitting the teen driver once and the Nissan multiple times. The two passengers were not injured. The three teens walked to the business where they requested emergency services.

The 17-year-old male, from Middletown, Delaware, was taken to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The ramp was closed for an extended period of time while the scene was investigated and cleared.

The Delaware State Police Criminal Investigations Unit continues to investigate this incident. Detectives are asking anyone who witnessed the shooting, or has relevant information, to contact Detective M. Conway at (302) 365-8411. Information may also be provided by sending a private Facebook message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-847-3333.

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.go](mailto:DSP_VictimServicesMail@delaware.go)

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## **\*Update – Victim Identified\* State Police Investigating Fatal Crash in Bear**

The Delaware State Police has identified 17-year-old **Xavier Smith**, of Newark, as the man who died in a [fatal crash](#) Sunday night in Bear.

The Delaware State Police Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit continues to investigate this crash. Troopers ask anyone who witnessed the crash or has relevant information to contact Master Corporal R. Kunicki at (302) 365-8417. Information may also be provided by sending a private Facebook message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-847-3333.

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# State Police Investigating Fatal Crash in Bear

The Delaware State Police is investigating a two-vehicle fatal crash that occurred last night in Bear.

On December 7, 2025, at approximately 10:40 p.m., a tractor-trailer, pulling an unloaded car-hauler trailer, was turning left from East Songsmith Drive onto southbound Bear Christiana Road. At the same time, a Ford Focus was traveling northbound on Bear Christiana Road, approaching East Songsmith Drive. The preliminary investigation revealed that the tractor-trailer hadn't completed the turn, and the car-hauler trailer was still in the intersection. For reasons currently being investigated, the Ford Focus continued northbound and crashed into the car-hauler trailer.

The driver of the Ford Focus, a 17-year-old man from Newark, Delaware, was pronounced dead at the scene. His name is being withheld until his family is notified.

The driver of the tractor-trailer, a 43-year-old man from New Castle, Delaware, did not report any injuries.

The roadway was [closed](#) for approximately 3.5 hours while the scene was investigated in cleared.

The Delaware State Police Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit continues to investigate this crash. Troopers ask anyone who witnessed the crash or has relevant information to contact Master Corporal R. Kunicki at (302) 365-8417. Information may also be provided by sending a private Facebook message to

the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-847-3333.

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## **State Police Investigating Armed Robbery at Newark Walgreens**

Delaware State Police are investigating an armed robbery that occurred this morning at the Walgreens located at 2719 Pulaski Highway in Newark.

On December 7, 2025, at approximately 8:00 a.m., an unknown suspect entered the business and approached an employee while displaying a handgun. The suspect directed the employee to the rear office, where another employee was counting money. He then restrained both employees with zip ties before removing an undisclosed amount of cash from the counter and fleeing the store on foot. No injuries were reported.

The suspect is described as a black male with curly black hair. He was wearing a black face covering and dark clothing. Troopers responded to the scene and searched the area, but the suspect was not located.

Delaware State Police Troop 2 Robbery Unit continues to investigate this incident. Anyone who has relevant information about the robbery is asked to contact Det. J. Dempsey at (302) 365-8472. Information may also be provided by sending a private Facebook message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-847-3333.

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## **\*Update – Victim Identified\***

# **State Police Investigating Fatal Hit-and-Run Pedestrian Crash**

Delaware State Police have identified 42-year-old **Joseph Constantino**, of Bear, Delaware, as the man who died from injuries sustained in a [fatal hit-and-run pedestrian crash](#) Saturday morning in Wilmington.

The Delaware State Police Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit continues to investigate this incident. Anyone who witnessed the crash, has surveillance or dash-camera footage, or has relevant information about the vehicle involved is asked to contact Master Corporal R. Kunicki at (302) 365-8417. Information may also be provided by sending a private Facebook message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-847-3333.

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## **\*Update – Victim Identified\* State Police Investigating Single-Vehicle Fatal Crash in Dover**

Delaware State Police have identified 43-year-old **Melvin Weathers**, of Dover, Delaware, as the man who died from injuries sustained in a [single-vehicle fatal crash](#) Friday night in Dover.

The Delaware State Police Troop 3 Collision Reconstruction Unit continues to investigate this incident. Anyone who witnessed the crash or has relevant information is asked to contact Master Corporal W. Booth at (302) 698-8451. Information may also be provided by sending a private Facebook message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-847-3333.

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# State Police Arrest Connecticut Woman for Aggravated Menacing of Juveniles

The Delaware State Police have arrested 50-year-old **Rachel Dinorscia**, of Connecticut, for aggravated menacing and weapons-related offenses following an incident on Friday night in Newark.

On December 5, 2025, at approximately 8:00 p.m., troopers responded to the parking lot of the Hilton, located at 100 Continental Drive, Newark, for the report of a subject brandishing a firearm toward three juveniles. Upon arrival, troopers learned that the juveniles were playing football in the hotel's parking lot when a female, later identified as Dinorscia, pointed a weapon at them from a paratransit van parked in the same lot. The juveniles immediately ran away but were not injured.

Troopers located the vehicle in a nearby parking lot and took Dinorscia into custody without incident. A search of the vehicle led to the discovery of a long rifle, which was used in the incident, along with a secondary rifle and two handguns.

Dinorscia was taken to Troop 6, where she was charged with the crimes listed below, arraigned by the Justice of the Peace Court 11, and committed to the Baylor Women's Correctional Institution on a \$23,500 secured bond.

- Possession of a Deadly Weapon During the Commission of a

Felony (Felony)

- Aggravated Menacing – 3 Counts (Felony)
  - Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon (Felony)
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# State Police Arrest Dover Man for Identity Theft

The Delaware State Police have arrested 48-year-old **Adrian Spence Jr.** of Dover, Delaware, in connection with an identity theft investigation that began in October in Hartly.

On October 20, 2025, troopers began investigating the theft of checks from a mailbox at a residence on the 5700 block of Halltown Road in Hartly. Detectives learned that the victims had placed outgoing mail in their mailbox, which included two checks. Soon after, a suspicious vehicle was seen at the mailbox, and after it left, the mail was gone.

The victims notified Shore United Bank, their financial institution, which then placed a stop payment on the stolen checks. On October 21, 2025, a male subject presented one of the checks at the Milford branch and identified himself as Adrian Spence Jr. The payee section of the check had been altered to display the suspect's name, but Shore United Bank staff identified the fraud, declined the transaction, and notified the victims.

Through investigative efforts, detectives confirmed Spence Jr. as the suspect. A warrant was issued for his arrest, and on December 4, 2025, the Dover Police Department took Spence Jr. into custody while contacting him on an unrelated matter.

Spence Jr. was transported to Troop 3, where he was arraigned

by the Justice of the Peace Court 2 and released on a \$3,500 unsecured bond for the charges listed below.



- Identity Theft (Felony)
- Theft \$1500 or Greater (Felony)
- Forgery Second Degree (Felony)

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## **State Police Investigating Fatal Hit-and-Run Pedestrian Crash**

Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal hit-and-run pedestrian crash that occurred early this morning in Wilmington.

On December 6, 2025, at approximately 1:00 a.m., troopers were dispatched to New Linden Hill Road, east of Pike Creek Boulevard, for a reported welfare check after several

motorists saw a man in the travel lanes. Callers reported that he was intermittently lying and sitting in the roadway. The circumstances surrounding why he was in the roadway remain under investigation.

Shortly after the initial 911 calls, an unknown vehicle traveling eastbound on New Linden Hill Road struck the man and fled the scene. At this time, there is no available description of the fleeing vehicle. Troopers are working to determine the make and model of the vehicle involved.

The pedestrian, a 42-year-old man from Bear, Delaware, was pronounced dead at the scene. His name is being withheld until his family is notified.

The roadway was closed for approximately 3 hours while members of the Delaware State Police Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit investigated and cleared the roadway.

The investigation is ongoing. Troopers ask anyone who witnessed the crash, has surveillance or dash-camera footage, or has relevant information about the vehicle involved to contact Master Corporal R. Kunicki at (302) 365-8417. Information may also be provided by sending a private Facebook message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-847-3333.

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# State Police Investigating Single-Vehicle Fatal Crash in Dover

Delaware State Police are investigating a single-vehicle fatal crash that occurred late last night in Dover.

On December 5, 2025, at approximately 11:00 p.m., a Chevrolet Silverado was traveling westbound on POW/MIA Parkway, approaching Baden Powell Way. For reasons still under investigation, the truck left the roadway, traveled off the north edge, and struck a signal light support pole.

The driver, a 43-year-old Dover man, was not properly restrained at the time of the crash. He was transported to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead. His name is being withheld until his family is notified.

The roadway was closed for approximately 2 hours while members of the Delaware State Police Troop 3 Collision Reconstruction Unit investigated and cleared the roadway.

The investigation is ongoing. Troopers ask anyone who witnessed the crash or may have information helpful to the investigation to contact Master Corporal W. Booth at (302) 698-8451. Information may also be provided by sending a private Facebook message to the [Delaware State Police](#) or contacting [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-847-3333.

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