Delaware State Police Seek Public's Assistance Identifying Theft Suspects-Felton





Felton, DE- Delaware State Police seek the public's assistance identifying the pictured suspect vehicle involved in a recent early morning theft.

On September 12, 2021, at approximately 5:53 a.m., the unknown suspects trespassed onto the Diamond State Pole Buildings property located at 7244 South DuPont Highway, Felton, and removed a catalytic converter from a company vehicle. The suspects then fled the area in the pictured vehicle.

The vehicle is described as a late model 1990's Chevrolet Silverado with blue spray paint on the driver's side and white on the passenger side. In addition, white stars are sprayed on the hood and left front. The driver-side door is white, and the windshield is possibly shattered.

The suspects are described as two unknown white males. Anyone with information regarding this case should contact Detective C. Bowie with Delaware State Police Troop 3 Criminal Investigative Unit by calling 302-698-8503 or emailing Christine.Bowie@delaware.gov. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.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 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 unit Director at Debra.Reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091521 1541

-End-

Troopers Investigate an Attempted Armed Robbery-Millsboro

Millsboro, DE- Delaware State Police are investigating an attempted armed robbery that occurred in a Millsboro community Tuesday.

On September 14, 2021, at approximately 9:27 a.m., a 67-year-old female was loading items into her car in the driveway to her residence in the 35000 block of Sussex Lane in the Mariners Cove Community when an unknown male approached her. The male pointed a gun at the victim and demanded money. When the suspect was unsuccessful in obtaining any money, he fled the area in an unknown make and model vehicle. The victim was uninjured during the incident.

The suspect is described as an unknown male, thin build, average height, and wearing a face covering.

This incident remains an active investigation by the Delaware State Police Troop 4 Criminal Investigative Unit. Anyone with information regarding this case should contact Detective Lindsay Coleman by calling 302-752-3813. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091521 1135

-End-

Troopers Investigate Fatal Single Vehicle Collision-Milton

Milton, DE- Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal single motor vehicle collision that occurred Tuesday night in Milton.

On September 14, 2021, at approximately 6:17 p.m., a 2009 Jaguar XF operated by a 36-year-old Milton man was traveling eastbound on Cave Neck Road. For an unknown reason, the operator failed to maintain his travel lane and exited the south edge of the roadway. After leaving the roadway, the front of the vehicle hit a road sign along a private driveway. It then continued traveling south before the front right struck a utility pole. The force of the impact caused the Jaguar to rotate clockwise and overturn.

The operator was not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the collision. He was transported from the accident scene to an area hospital, where he was pronounced deceased.

The roadway was closed for approximately six hours as the crash was investigated, and the roadway was cleared.

This collision remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit. Anyone with information regarding this crash should contact Sgt. Nicholas DeMalto by calling 302-644-5020. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.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 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 unit Director at Debra.Reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091421 2305

-End-

UPDATE- Victim Identified Troopers Investigate Fatal

Pedestrian Crash- Bear

Bear, DE- Delaware State Police have identified the pedestrian who died as a result of a Sunday night fatal crash on Pulaski Highway (US Route 40) as **Melissa A. Manger, 41, of New Castle**.

This collision remains an active and ongoing investigation. Anyone with information or who witnessed this collision should contact Senior Corporal M. Calio by calling 302-365-8483. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.

Troopers Investigate Fatal Pedestrian Crash-Bear

The Delaware State Police would like to offer these pedestrian safety tips to help educate and encourage pedestrians to make smart and safe decisions when walking near roadways. By following these basic safety tips and laws it is our hope that no other pedestrians lose their lives.

• Do not walk under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Impaired walking is like impaired driving; it is illegal and can be deadly.
• Teach children not to run into the street after balls or other toys, and don't allow them to cross alone until you've practiced the basics with them.
• Carry a flashlight or other reflective item when walking at night. It's the law.
• Do not step into a cross walk if it will create a hazard to motorists. When it is clear to cross, continue to watch for traffic while crossing the street until you have safely reached the other side.
• Be sure to evaluate the distance and speed of oncoming traffic before you step out into the street to ensure that a vehicle has adequate distance in which to stop safely.
• Use sidewalks. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic

and as far off the edge of the road as possible.
• Do not risk crossing outside of a cross walk or intersection just because it's more convenient, especially on high-speed roadways. Cars cannot stop in time for you.
• Cross only at cross walks or intersections with signals or traffic signs. Look left, right, and left again. Only start to cross when it's clear.
• Make eye contact with drivers when crossing busy streets and continue to watch out for traffic the entire time you are in the crosswalk. Your life may depend on it, regardless whether or not you have the right of way.
• If your vehicle breaks down on an interstate or busy roadway, don't leave your vehicle. Instead call #77 or 911 for assistance. Motorists can also call #77 to report a disabled vehicle they see on the roadways.
• If you are driving, be on the lookout for pedestrians near the roadway.
• We urge pedestrians and drivers to be more observant, cautious and safe.

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 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 unit Director at Debra.Reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091421 2230

UPDATE- Victim Identified Delaware State Police Investigate Fatal Two Vehicle Collision- Newark

Newark, DE- Delaware State Police have identified the individual who died in an early Sunday morning crash on Salem Church Road as **Alex I. Ruiz, 21, of Newark**.

This collision remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit. Anyone with information or who witnessed this collision should contact Master Corporal John Breen by calling 302-365-8486. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.

Delaware State Police Investigate Fatal Two Vehicle Collision- Newark

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 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 unit Director at Debra.Reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091421 2215

-End-

Georgetown Man Arrested for Murder in Suspicious Missing Person Case- Dagsboro

Dagsboro, DE- Delaware State Police arrested **Michael Ellingsen, 31, of Georgetown,** for murder related to a ten-year suspicious missing person case.

In February 2011, John "Doug" Wisniewski, 45, of Dagsboro, was reported missing to the Delaware State Police. Over the last

ten years, detectives continued to investigate the circumstances surrounding Doug's suspicious disappearance. During the investigation, detectives learned when Doug disappeared, he resided at a residence on the same property as Michael Ellingsens' home, located in the 30000 block of R Farm Lane, Dagsboro. Detectives conducted many interviews, and leads were investigated, but Doug was never located. In January 2021, new investigative leads emerged with information showing during the evening hours of a day in late January 2011, Ellingsen shot and killed Doug and buried his body on the property where their homes were located. For numerous days in January 2021, multiple troopers and Division of Forensic Science Investigators searched the property on R Farm Lane for Doug's remains. Finally, on January 22, 2021, his body was located on the property. The remains were exhumed by the Delaware State Police and Division of Forensic Science. An autopsy was conducted and Doug's death was ruled a homicide.

On September 13, 2021, a Sussex County Grand Jury issued an indictment for Michael Ellingsen's arrest. Later that day, Delaware State Police located Ellingsen. He was taken into custody without incident and arraigned in the Justice of the Peace Court #2 for the charge of Murder First Degree (Felony). He was committed to Sussex Correctional Institution on a $1,000,000.00 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 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 unit Director at Debra.Reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091421 2155

-End-

UPDATE #2 Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Pedestrian Accident-Wilmington

Wilmington, DE- Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal pedestrian accident that occurred Monday afternoon in Wilmington.

On September 13, 2021, at approximately 3:22 p.m., a 2013 Hyundai Santa Fe operated by a 47-year-old Wilmington female was in the left turn lane of northbound Marsh Road at the intersection of Silverside Road. As the vehicle began to turn left onto Silverside Road on a solid green light, an 18-year-old female pedestrian attempted to cross Silverside Road from the south side of the roadway within the designated crosswalk. The pedestrian entered the path of the turning vehicle

resulting in the front bumper of the Hyundai striking the pedestrian. The operator of the Santa Fe remained at the scene after the accident occurred.

The 18-year-old female pedestrian from Wilmington was transported to a nearby hospital with life-threatening injuries. She succumbed to her injuries and was pronounced deceased. Identification is pending notification to next of kin.

The 47-year-old female operator did not sustain any injuries.

Silverside Road in the area of Marsh Road was closed for approximately 3 hours as the collision was investigated and the roadway cleared.

This collision remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit. Anyone with information regarding this incident should contact Sgt. D. Alexander by calling 302- 365-8484. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.

UPDATE Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Pedestrian Accident- Wilmington

Traffic Advisory Issued for Marsh Road and Silverside Road- Wilmington

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 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 unit Director at Debra.Reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091321 2220

-End-

UPDATE Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Pedestrian Accident- Wilmington

Wilmington, DE- Delaware State Police are currently investigating a fatal pedestrian accident on Silverside Road in the area of Marsh Road. Silverside Road and Marsh Road was closed for an extended period of time as the crash was investigated. The roadway is now open. Additional information regarding the collision will be released once the information becomes available.

For up to date traffic advisories visit http://www.deldot.gov/Traffic/travel_advisory/index.shtml#advisories.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091321 1905

-End-

Traffic Advisory Issued for Marsh Road and Silverside Road- Wilmington

Wilmington, DE- Delaware State Police are issuing a traffic advisory for **Silverside Road and Marsh Road**. Both roadways are currently closed for a serious pedestrian accident. The roadways will be closed for an extended period of time.

Motorists are urged to seek alternate routes of travel.

For up to date traffic advisories please visit http://www.deldot.gov/Traffic/travel_advisory/index.shtml#advisories.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 091321 1550

-End-

Delaware State Police to Mobilize for "Operation Clear Track," the Largest Rail Safety Law Enforcement

Initiative during Rail Safety Week 2021

On Tuesday, September 21, 2021 during Rail Safety Week (RSW), September 20-26, Delaware State Police will join with Amtrak Police and more than **600** local, state, federal and railroad law enforcement departments for **"Operation Clear Track"** to raise awareness and enforce railroad grade crossing and trespassing laws in 48 states across the U.S. **"Operation Clear Track" is the largest single law enforcement railroad safety operation in the U.S.**

During "Operation Clear Track," agency law enforcement personnel will be stationed at targeted railroad grade crossings and other locations handing out railroad safety cards to motorists and pedestrians and issuing warnings and citations to violators. The goal of **Rail Safety Week's Operation Clear Track** is to reduce pedestrian and driver injuries and fatalities around railroad tracks through increased public awareness.

WHAT: **"Operation Clear Track"** Enforcement/Education event to be held in 48 states at railroad grade crossings and other locations.

WHEN: **Tuesday, September 21 (rain date Wednesday, September 22)**

WHERE/WHAT TIME: **River Road (SR9) in the area of the oil refinery (Picture #1) and Wrangle Hill Road (SR72) just west of Willamette Drive, (Picture #2) between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.**

WHY: Federal statistics show that **every three hours in the United States**, a person or vehicle is hit by a train. "Operation Clear Track" is an effort by Operation Lifesaver Inc., Amtrak Police and law enforcement

partners across the nation to raise awareness of the need for caution near railroad tracks and trains during **Rail Safety Week**, held September 20-26, 2021, in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

MORE INFO: Visit the Rail Safety Week landing page and Operation Lifesaver, Inc.'s website for safety tips and statistics Contact news@oli.org or MediaRelations@amtrak.com for more information on "Operation Clear Track."

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About Operation Lifesaver

Operation Lifesaver is a non-profit public safety education and awareness organization dedicated to reducing collisions, fatalities and injuries at highway-rail crossings and preventing trespassing on or near railroad tracks. A national network of trained volunteers gives free presentations on rail safety and a public awareness campaign, "See Tracks? Think Train!" provides tips and statistics to encourage safe behavior near the tracks. OLI leads an international observance of Rail Safety Week each September. Learn more about Rail Safety Week; follow OLI on **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **LinkedIn**, **Twitter** and **Pinterest**.

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal Gary Fournier

Released: 091321 1345

-END-