Update- Victim Identified Delaware State Police Investigating Single Vehicle Fatal Crash- Ellendale

Ellendale– Delaware State Police have identified the name of the individual who died in a crash on December 05, 2020, on northbound DuPont Boulevard, U.S. 113 just north of East Robbins Road, as 27-year-old **Veronica N. Baker** of Georgetown., DE.

The crash continues to remain under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit.

Delaware State Police Investigating Single Vehicle Fatal Crash- Ellendale

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. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@delaware.gov.

Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/3 Heather Pepper

Released: 120920 1315

-End-

Colonel Melissa A. Zebley Proudly Announces the Promotion of Captain William Crotty to the Rank of Major

Delaware- The Delaware State Police Superintendent, Colonel Melissa A. Zebley announces the promotion of Captain William Crotty to the rank of Major on August 28th, 2020.

Major William Crotty has been a member of the Delaware State Police since January of 1997 and is a graduate of the 66th Delaware State Police Academy class. Upon graduation from the Delaware State Police Academy, Major Crotty was assigned to Uniformed Patrol at Troop 1 (Penny Hill). Major Crotty in May of 2001 was assigned to the Governor's Task Force where he served until 2004 when he transferred to Uniformed Patrol at Troop 7 (Lewes). After serving at Troop 7 for two years, Major Crotty was assigned to the Sussex County Drug Unit until his promotion to the rank of Sergeant in 2007.

As a Sergeant, Major Crotty served in Uniformed Patrol operations at Troop 7 (Lewes). In the spring of 2009, Major Crotty was promoted the rank of Lieutenant and was assigned as the Regulatory Director of the State Bureau of Identification in Dover. In 2010, Major Crotty was provided the opportunity to serve in the Criminal Intelligence Section of the Delaware State Police as the Deputy Fusion Center Director and later as the Special Projects Coordinator. Major Crotty was promoted to the rank of Captain in 2016 and was assigned at the Criminal Intelligence Commander for the Delaware State Police. In the spring of 2019, Major Crotty returned to

operations as the Troop Commander for Delaware State Police Troop 4 (Georgetown).

In addition to these assignments, Major Crotty was an eleven year member of the Special Operations Response Team, a member of the Delaware State Police 21st Century Policing Committee and served four years (two as chair) of the Delaware State Police Diversity Counsel.

Major Crotty earned his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of Delaware. He is a graduate of the Naval Post Graduate Fusion Center Leaders Program and attended the 248th Session of the (FBI) National Academy.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 120920 1153

-End-

Update Name Released Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Crash-New Castle

New Castle– Delaware State Police have identified the name of the individual who died in a crash on December 07, 2020 on River Road (Route 9) south of Malcolm Forest Road, New Castle, as 63-year-old **Joseph Grosso** of Delaware City, DE.

The crash continues to remain under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit.

Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Crash-New Castle

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. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@delaware.gov.

Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 120920 0935

-End-

Delaware State Police Offer Tips to Help Keep You Safe This Holiday Season

Delaware- With the holiday season upon us, the Delaware State Police would like to remind you to make safety a priority to avoid being vulnerable to theft and other holiday crimes. By taking a few extra precautions you can help ensure your holiday is a happy and safe one. We would like to provide these safety reminders to help keep you safe this holiday season.

- Remember to always lock your car doors, even if they are in the driveway of your residence.
- Secure any valuables in a place where they aren't visible from outside the vehicle. If you have arrived to your final destination, remove the valuables from your vehicle.
- Always leave outside lights on during the night to keep your home and vehicles parked outside visible from the roadway.
- Be aware of any suspicious activity or subjects in your community and report them immediately to the police.
- If packages are being delivered and you are not going to be home, ask a neighbor to collect the package for you.
- If you have a security system, always remember to activate it and lock the doors to your home.

- Try to shop during the day, but if you shop at night, do not do it alone.
- Parking lots are an easy place to fall victim to a crime. Always park in a safe, well lit location.
- When walking to and from your vehicle, stay alert to your surroundings and be aware of possible suspicious persons, vehicles or situations. Always remember, if you

see something to say something.

- When going into a store, always turn off your vehicle, remove the keys and lock the doors.
- Use caution if carrying a wallet or purse and be sure to not leave them unattended.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry and carrying large amounts of cash.
- Always be aware of your surroundings and avoid being preoccupied with your cellphone and other electronic devices.

The Delaware State Police wishes everyone a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season!

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Heather Pepper

Released:120820 1320

-End-

Delaware State Police Investigating Crash Involving Trooper – Wilmington

Wilmington- The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is investigating a crash involving a State Trooper that occurred yesterday evening.

The incident occurred on December 07, 2020, at approximately 4:31 p.m., at the intersection of Rt. 141 (Powder Mill Road) and West Park Drive, Wilmington. Traffic at the intersection was stopped in all directions by multiple Troopers working as part of the detail in the President Elect's motorcade blocked off the intersection. After the motorcade cleared the intersection, a 2019 Nissan Altima who was stopped initially on the southbound exit ramp from Rt. 202, began to proceed through the intersection onto West Park Drive for a green traffic signal. After several seconds, a 2015 Chevrolet fully marked Delaware State Police Tahoe, also working as part of the President Elect's motorcade detail was traveling southbound 141 and entered the intersection with all its emergency lights activated. The front of the Tahoe struck the left front side of the Altima and pushed it into the southbound lane of Route 141.

The operator of the Altima, a 77-year-old female from Wilmington was transported to an area hospital where she was treated and released with minor injuries.

The Trooper who was operating the Chevrolet Tahoe was also transported to an area hospital where he was treated and released with minor injuries.

Route 141 was closed for approximately 2 hours while the crash was investigated and cleared. Traffic for West Park Drive was redirected away from the collision scene.

The investigation is ongoing, and anyone with information regarding the crash should contact Det. Forester of the Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit by calling 302-365-8485. 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, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released:120820 1308

-End-

UPDATE Convenience Store

Robbery Suspect Photographs Released- Lewes





Lewes- Delaware State Police are seeking the public's assistance with identifying an individual who is wanted in connection to a convenience store robbery that occurred on November 14, 2020.

Detectives continue to investigate a convenience store robbery that occurred on November 14, 2020, at the Uncle Willie's BP Station located at 17580 Coastal Highway, Lewes, for a robbery. The investigation determined the suspect entered the business at approximately 9:09 p.m. and waited inside the store until there were no other customers inside. He then approached the store counter, gave the clerk a plastic bag, and demanded money be put into it as he displayed a handgun.

The cashier complied, and the suspect fled the store on foot with an undisclosed amount of cash. No one was injured during the incident.

The suspect is described as a male, approximately 6’2″- 6’5″, thin build, wearing a dark-colored hooded sweatshirt and pants.

Anyone with information regarding this incident should contact Detective K. Wideman with Delaware State Police Troop 4 Criminal Investigative Unit by calling 302-752-3832 or emailing Krystle.Wideman@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 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@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 120820 1123

Troopers Investigating Convenience Store Robbery- Lewes

Update-Name Released Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Crash – Newark

Newark– Delaware State Police have identified the name of the individual who died in a crash on December 07, 2020, on northbound Interstate 95 at State Route 1, Newark, as 34-year-old **Candace Ewald** of Newark, DE.

The crash continues to remain under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit.

Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Crash-Newark

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. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@delaware.gov.

Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 120820 1239

-End-

Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Crash-New Castle

New Castle– Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal motor vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 5:58 p.m., Monday, December 07, 2020, on River Road (Route 9) south of Malcolm Forest Road.

The initial investigation has determined a 2013 Nissan Frontier, operated by a 63-year-old male from Delaware City, DE, was traveling southbound River Road approaching the intersection with Malcolm Forest Road. At the same time a 2007 Jeep Liberty, operated by a 33-year-old female from Delaware City, was traveling northbound River Road at the same location. For reasons unknown, the vehicles collided head-on near the center of the roadway.

The operator of the Nissan who was not wearing a seatbelt was transported to an area hospital where he was pronounced deceased. His name is being withheld at this time pending the notification of next of kin.

The operator of the Jeep who was properly restrained was transported to Christiana Hospital for serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

Impairment on either operator does not appear to be a factor. The investigation is on-going and there are no charges filed at this time.

River Road (Rt. 9) between Saienni Boulevard and Federal School Lane was closed for approximately 3 hours while the collision was investigated and cleared.

The investigation is ongoing, and anyone with information regarding the crash should contact Det. Breen of the Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit 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

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. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 120820 0915

-End-

UPDATE Additional Theft Suspect Photograph Released-Georgetown

Georgetown-