

UPDATE-Victim Identified

Troopers Investigating Fatal Hit and Run Pedestrian Crash-Wilmington

Wilmington – The Delaware State Police have identified Bryan K. Lott, 32, of Philadelphia, PA as the pedestrian who was struck and killed by a hit and run driver, at approximately 9:02 p.m., Monday, December 24, 2018, on DE Rt. 141 (Centre Rd.) just south of DE Rt. 48 (Lancaster Pike) in Wilmington.

Click on the following link to view the original release:

<https://dsp.delaware.gov/2018/12/25/troopers-investigating-fatal-hit-run-pedestrian-crash-wilmington/>

Anyone with information regarding the incident or the fleeing vehicle are asked to contact Cpl. J. Breen of the Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit at 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@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released:122618 0920

-End-

Troopers Investigating Fatal Hit and Run Pedestrian Crash- Wilmington

Wilmington – The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is investigating a fatal hit and run crash involving a pedestrian that took place Monday night.

The initial investigation has determined that at approximately 9:02 p.m., Monday, December 24, 2018, two pedestrians were walking northbound on DE Rt. 141 (Centre Rd.) within the right turn lane, for DE Rt. 48 (Lancaster Pike). An unknown make and

model vehicle traveling northbound on DE 141 in the right turn lane struck both pedestrians from behind, approximately 400' south of the intersection with DE 48.

One pedestrian, a 37 year old Wilmington man, was thrown into a ditch off the east side of the roadway. He was evaluated by EMS on scene and refused medical treatment.

The second pedestrian a 32 year old Philadelphia PA, was thrown into the roadway where he came to rest in the right thru lane of DE 141 northbound. He was transported to the Christiana Hospital where he was pronounced deceased. Identification is pending notification of next of kin.

Both pedestrians were wearing all dark clothing without any reflective material.

Impairment on their behalf is undetermined at this time.

The fleeing vehicle could only be described as being dark gray in color and should be missing the passenger side mirror.

Northbound DE 141 south of DE 48 was closed for approximately 3 hours while the scene was investigated and cleared.

Anyone with information regarding the incident or the fleeing vehicle are asked to contact Cpl. J. Breen of the Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit at 302-365-8486.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released:122518 0640

-End-

Troopers Investigating Multiple Criminal Mischief Complaints-Sussex County

Sussex County– The Delaware State Police have handled numerous reports of criminal mischief to vehicles and residences, and are seeking the public's assistance.

The reports of criminal mischief began on Friday, December 21, 2018 and between Friday and Saturday, December 22, 2018, the State Police have handled eleven complaints in the Georgetown,

Millsboro, Frankford, and Dagsboro areas. The suspects are using what appears to be white marbles fired with a slingshot or other projectile firing device. The suspect(s) are causing damage to house windows, car windows, and siding.

The State Police is asking anyone with information in reference to these incidences to please contact Troop 4, at 302-856-5850. 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>

Regardless of the situation, circumstance or location, if you observe any type of suspicious activity make sure to report it.

“TRUST YOUR GUT”

“SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING”

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Melissa Jaffe

Released: 122417 1547

-End-

***Update #2* Troopers Investigating Report of Shots Fired- Christiana Mall**

Newark- The Delaware State Police continue to investigate the incident that was reported as shots being fired last evening at the Christiana Mall.

The incident occurred on Friday, December 21, 2018 at approximately 8:37 p.m., when the State Police received a report of shots being fired at the Christiana Mall located at 132 Christina Mall, Newark. Troopers who were already on site as part of the regularly scheduled security detail and the Christiana Mall Security Officers immediately began to follow safety protocols and procedures. During the response, there were various reports of the suspects being at different businesses. With the assistance of multiple surrounding agencies, the building was evacuated and secured, and traffic was diverted away from the area. A search of the building as well as the surrounding area was conducted and deemed safe.

Further investigation revealed that there was a large fight between multiple subjects. During this incident, a glass container broke and a metal sign fell to the floor. Patrons and employees immediately began fleeing the area. There has been no evidence recovered of any weapons being present or discharged. At this time, it appears that the fight within the mall is the cause of the mass exit of patrons and employees.

Various reports of minor injuries have been made by victims that occurred while fleeing the mall.

The Christiana Mall remains open during regularly scheduled holiday hours at this time.

This case continues to remain under investigation and anyone with information is asked to contact Troop 2, Detective Ripple at (302) 365-8438. 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>

<https://dsp.delaware.gov/2018/12/21/update-troopers-investigating-report-shots-fired-christiana-mall/>

<https://dsp.delaware.gov/2018/12/21/troopers-investigating-report-shots-fired-christiana-mall/>

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*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal
Melissa Jaffe*

Released:122218 0812

-End-

Homeless Sex Offender Notification

Dover– The following are not wanted. These are Homeless Sex Offender Public Notifications. If you have information that any of 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 <http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com>.

*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal
Melissa Jaffe*

Released: 122218 0802

-End-

Update Troopers Investigating Report of Shots

Fired- Christiana Mall

Newark- The Delaware State Police continue to remain on scene at the Christiana Mall.

There has been a reunification location set up in the Costco parking lot located at 900 Center Blvd., Newark. The ramps leading to Costco have been re-opened at this time to allow those access to the reunification area. The Christiana Mall will remain closed. Motorist should expect delays and seek alternate routes of travel.

The incident continues to remain under investigation with further details being released as they become available.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Troop 2 at 302-834-2620.

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>

<https://dsp.delaware.gov/2018/12/21/troopers-investigating-report-shots-fired-christiana-mall/>

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*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal
Melissa Jaffe*

Released: 122118 2257

-End-

Troopers Investigating Report of Shots Fired-Christiana Mall

Newark- The Delaware State Police are currently on scene investigating a report of a shots fired incident that occurred at approximately 8:47 p.m. at the Christiana Mall.

There have been no reports of any injuries at this time.

The mall is currently being evacuated and safety protocols are being followed to ensure the area is safe. All traffic is being diverted from the area. Motorist should expect delays and seek alternate routes of travel.

The investigation is in its early stages with further information being released as it becomes available.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Troop 2 at 302-834-2620.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Melissa Jaffe

Released: 122118 2158

-End-

**Trooper Youth Program
Provides Christmas Cheer-**

Dover

Dover– The Delaware State Police Troop 3 “Trooper Youth Program” provided a Dover family a little Christmas cheer this evening, December 21, 2018.

The Trooper Youths provided gifts to a family that recently experienced the tragedy of losing their home to a house fire. With the majority of their personal belongings being destroyed in the fire, the members of the Trooper Youth program sought to provide needed clothes and toys to the family.

Rose Murphy and her three children, Chase age 10, Layla age 9, and Cole age 5 enjoyed opening some of the gifts with the Troop Commander, Captain Joshua A. Bushweller and Cpl. Carl Batson, who leads the Trooper Youth Program. Members of the Trooper Youth Program included Faith Brien, Tyron Samuels, and Talley Ridgeway.

Captain Bushweller stated, “I am extremely humbled and proud of Cpl. Batson and these young members of the Trooper Youth Program for their compassion and commitment to helping others in the community. This family experienced a horrible tragedy and today made their life a little bit better ... and seeing the smiles on the kids’ faces was priceless.”

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*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal
Melissa Jaffe*

Released: 122118 2002

-End-

Troopers Offer Safety Tips For Navigating Rain Storms and Flooded Roadways

As a result of the recent heavy rainfall and localized flooding, the Delaware State Police would like to offer the following safety tips for operating a motor vehicle in a rain storm or on water covered roadways.

Drive a clean car in good condition

When visibility is limited by wet weather, it's important that your car itself doesn't impede your sight. Once a month, clean the outsides and insides of windshields and windows, and check your windshield wiper blades for wear. Check the level of your washer fluid once a week.

Routinely perform a quick check of headlights, taillights, turn signals and tire treads before driving the car for the first time each day.

Know the roads

Take a moment to consider your route. If it takes you through low-lying bridge underpasses or past ditches prone to flooding choose an alternate route of travel.

Utilize headlights but not high beams

Though many newer cars come with automatic running lights, turn on the actual headlights when using your windshield wipers so your taillights come on as well. The idea behind having headlights is so the other drivers can see you. When you turn your headlights on and your tail lights come on, you identify all four corners of the vehicle.

You don't, however, need to flip on your high beams; the brighter light will just reflect off wet surfaces, bouncing back into your eyes and irritating other drivers.

Slow down!

Leave at least five seconds of following distance between your own car and the one in front, and don't feel pressure to drive the posted speed limit. The speed listed on the side of the highway is the maximum speed for perfect weather and perfect road conditions, so if the road is wet, it could be too fast for existing conditions.

And remember: never use cruise control on wet roads. If you hydroplane under cruise control, the automatic acceleration can cause you to lose control of your vehicle when your tires regain traction.

Steer where you want to go

If you're going too fast and end up hydroplaning turn the wheel in the direction you want to go—and don't be afraid if you don't steer out of the skid on the first try. It may take three to five adjustments to get back on course

Hold off on unnecessary trips

It's one thing if you need to get home to your children or you're already on the road, but otherwise, ask yourself if it is imperative to drive right now. Just as you would stay off the roads in heavy snow, it's OK to stay home in heavy rain.

Flood Safety Tips

Floods can occur anywhere, with floodwaters rising gradually or flash floods striking suddenly. Most flood fatalities happen because people try to drive through deadly waters rather than avoid them. Water's powerful force can easily overtake vehicles caught in a flood. Follow these tips to stay safe in your car during a flood.

Pay attention to barricades.

Don't ignore them by driving past them.

Do not drive through standing water on roads or in parking lots.

The average automobile can be swept off the road in 12 inches of moving water, and roads covered by water are prone to collapse. Attempting to drive through water also may stall your engine, with the potential to cause irreparable damage if you try to restart the engine. If you come upon a flooded street, take an alternate route.

Take extra precautions if you're forced to drive through water.

If no alternate route exists and you have no other reasonable alternative but to drive through standing water.

- Do your best to estimate the depth of the water (if other cars are driving through, take note of how deep the water is).
- Drive slowly and steadily through the water.
- Avoid driving in water that downed electrical or power lines have fallen in – electric current passes through

water easily.

- Watch for items traveling downstream – they can trap or crush you if you're in their path.
- If you have driven through water up to the wheel rims or higher, test your brakes on a clear patch of road at low speed. If they are wet and not stopping the vehicle as they should, dry them by pressing gently on the brake pedal with your left foot while maintaining speed with your right foot.
- Stay off the telephone unless you must report severe injuries.
- If your vehicle stalls in the deep water, you may need to restart the engine to make it to safety. Keep in mind that restarting may cause irreparable damage to the engine.
- If you can't restart your vehicle and you become trapped in rising water, immediately abandon it for higher ground. Try to open the door or roll down the window to get out of the vehicle. If you are unable to get out safely, call 911 or get the attention of a passerby or someone standing on higher ground so that they may call for help.
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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released: 122118 1150

-End-

***Update Name Released* Fatal Crash Involving a Pedestrian – Bethany Beach**

Bethany Beach- The Delaware State Police have identified the pedestrian that was struck on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 on Coastal Highway approaching the intersection of Hickman Plaza Drive.

David W. Henderson, 79 of Ithaca, NY succumbed to his injuries on December 20, 2018.

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

<https://dsp.delaware.gov/2018/12/20/troopers-investigating-serious-crash-bethany-beach/>

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Melissa Jaffe*

Released: 12218 0952

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