Delaware State Police to Conduct Citizen's Police Academy in Sussex County



Delaware State Police

Presented by the Director of Public Information Sergeant Richard D. Bratz

Georgetown, De. – The 2017 Spring Delaware State Police Citizen's Police Academy will begin on Thursday, April 20, 2017. The academy is comprised of eight consecutive sessions for the next eight Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and will conclude on Thursday, June 8, 2017. Most of the classes will take place at the Sussex Emergency Operations Center located at 21911 Rudder Lane, Georgetown.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about a wide variety of police activities consistent with what a Delaware

Trooper experiences today. The instruction includes criminal and traffic investigations, special units, and various other law enforcement related topics. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to ride with patrol troopers. Class size will be limited to 20 participants and a background check will be conducted on all applicants.

Deadline for registration is April 14, 2017. Applications must be turned in by that date in order to be processed.

If interested and would like to apply please contact Sergeant Richard D. Bratz at Richard.Bratz@delaware.gov or 302-242-5456, in order to obtain an application. You may also download the application online by clicking on the following link: DSP Citizen's Police Academy Application

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Released: 031417 1211

-End-

Troopers Arrest Four

Following Series of Storage Facility Burglaries

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Newark- Delaware State Police have arrested four people and charged them in connection with a series of self storage unit burglaries which had been occurring in Kent and New Castle County since August of 2016.

The arrests occurred after troopers responded to the North Dover Storage, located at 4660 N. DuPont Highway, Dover, on Sunday, February 5, 2017, for the report of a burglary which had occurred. During the course of the investigation, which included the viewing of surveillance footage that was subsequently released to the public, troopers received a tip, and were able to positively identify Jacob Kolar, 20, of Wilmington, DE, and a 16 year old Townsend male, as suspects in the burglary. Both subjects turned themselves in at Troop 3, and through further investigation, troopers were able to link them, as well as Dennis Smith, 21, of Middletown, and a 14 year old Townsend male, to a total of nine burglaries of self storage facilities which had been occurring. A subsequent search of the home of the 14 and 16 year old Townsend juveniles, which is located in the 200 block of Avonbridge Drive, revealed a large amount of property that had been reported stolen in the burglaries.

Jacob Kolar was arrested and charged with Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, seven counts of Burglary 3rd Degree, seven counts of Possession of Burglar Tools, two counts of Theft of a Firearm, seven counts of Conspiracy 2nd Degree, two counts of Theft (Felony), four counts of Theft (Misdemeanor), and ten counts of Criminal Mischief. He was arraigned at JP Court 11 and committed to the

Howard R. Young Correctional Institution in default of $32,000.00 cash bail.

Dennis Smith was arrested and charged with Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, two counts of Burglary 3rd Degree, two counts of Possession of Burglar Tools, two counts of Theft of a Firearm, two counts of Conspiracy 2nd Degree, Theft (Felony), two counts of Theft (Misdemeanor), and four counts of Criminal Mischief. He was arraigned at JP Court 11 and committed to the Howard R. Young Correctional Institution in default of $50,000.00 secured bail.

The 16 year old Townsend juvenile was charged by Troopers with Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited, seven counts of Burglary 3rd Degree, seven counts of Possession of Burglar Tools, two counts of Theft of a Firearm, seven counts of Conspiracy 2nd Degree, two counts of Theft (Felony), four counts of Theft (Misdemeanor), and ten counts of Criminal Mischief. He was arraigned at the New Castle County Family Court and committed to the New Castle County Detention Center in default of $32,100.00 cash bail.

The 14 year old Townsend male was arrested and charged with Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited, two counts of Burglary 3rd Degree, two counts of Possession of Burglar Tools, two counts of Theft of a Firearm, two counts of Conspiracy 2nd Degree, Theft (Felony), two counts of Theft (Misdemeanor), and four counts of Criminal Mischief. He was arraigned at the New Castle County Family Court and released on $9,300.00 unsecured bail.

Troopers were able to link the four suspects to the following burglaries:

1. Storage Sense, 893 Noxontown Pond Road, Townsend. July

17, 2016 (two units)
2. Reybold Self Storage, 10 Executive Drive, Newark, on August 8, 2016 (two units).
3. Public Storage, 3801 N. DuPont Highway, New Castle, on August 9, 2016.
4. Reybold Self Storage, 950 Red Lion Road, New Castle, August 12, 2016.
5. Atlantic Storage, 1 PGA Boulevard, Bear, August 24, 2016.
6. Secure Self Storage, 1020 Bear Road, New Castle, September 11, 2016.
7. North Dover Storage, 4660 North DuPont Highway, Dover, February 5, 2017.

Released: 031517 1125

###

Camp Barnes Counselor Positions Available



Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier

Delaware – Applications for Camp Barnes Counselor are available at all State Police Troops and can be downloaded at the camp's website: www.campbarnes.net. Camp and orientations dates will be listed on the website.

- Starting salary is $300.00 per week
- Food and lodging provided
- Weekends off
- Must be a graduating senior in high school or college student

The deadline for the applications is **April 16, 2017**.

Any questions, please contact Master Corporal Shawn Hatfield at 302-752-3834 or james.hatfield@delaware.gov.

History-In 1947, the Delaware Association of Chiefs' of Police, an organization which was composed of active law enforcement and correctional officers, accepted the challenge to undertake a project to combat juvenile delinquency in the First State. A committee was appointed to investigate the

problems confronting youth. The committee's resulting recommendations led to the establishment of Camp Barnes for the recreation of deserving youth from throughout the state.

Camp Barnes, located on Miller's Creek, a tributary of Little Assawoman Bay, has since served the needs of thousands of children from throughout Delaware. Camp Barnes was originally designed to provide the children who were unable to attend summer camp an opportunity to experience life at a summer youth camp. Camp Barnes has remained basically unchanged, providing Delaware children with these outdoor experiences for over 60 years.

Released: 031517 1015

###

Delaware State Police to Conduct Citizen's Police Academy in Sussex County



Presented by the Director of Public Information Sergeant Richard D. Bratz

Georgetown, De. – The 2017 Spring Delaware State Police Citizen's Police Academy will begin on Thursday, April 20, 2017. The academy is comprised of eight consecutive sessions for the next eight Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and will conclude on Thursday, June 8, 2017. Most of the classes will take place at the Sussex Emergency Operations Center located at 21911 Rudder Lane, Georgetown.

Participants will learn about a wide variety of police activities consistent with what a Delaware Trooper experiences today. The instruction includes criminal and traffic investigations, special units, and various other law enforcement related topics. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to ride with patrol troopers. Class size will be limited to 20 participants and a background check will be conducted on all applicants.

Deadline for registration is April 7, 2017. Applications must be turned in by that date in order to be processed.

If interested and would like to apply please contact Sergeant Richard D. Bratz at Richard.Bratz@delaware.gov or 302-242-5456, in order to obtain an application. You may also download the application online by clicking on the following link: DSP Citizen's Police Academy Application

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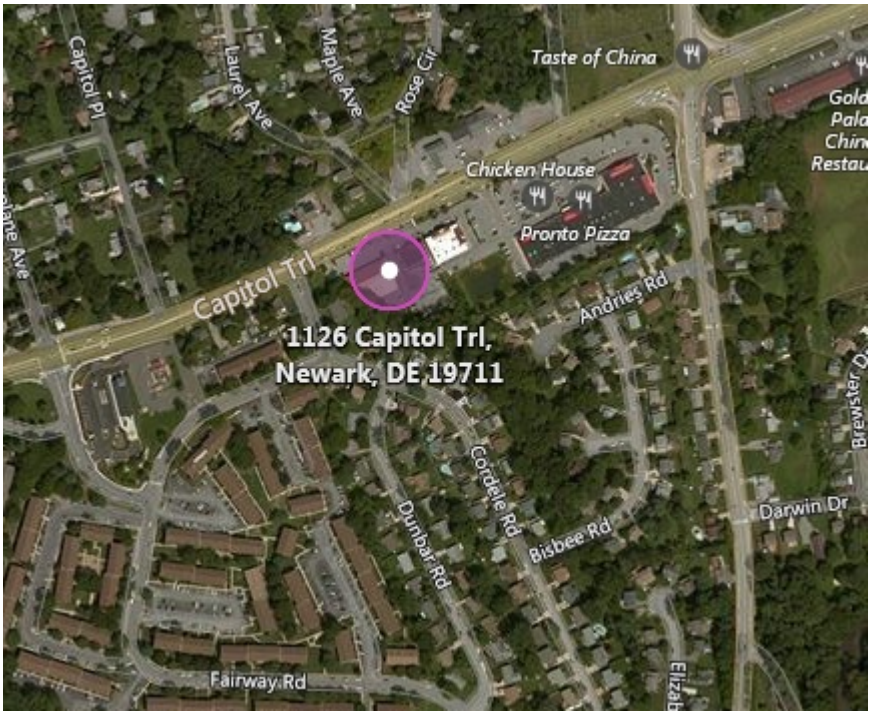
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Released: 031417 1211

-End-

Troopers Investigating Donut Shop Robbery



Presented By Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Newark (19711)- Delaware State Police are currently investigating the robbery of a Newark area Dunkin Donuts that occurred yesterday evening.

The investigation thus far has determined that the robbery occurred on Monday, March 13, 2017 at approximately 6:15 p.m., as a male suspect entered the Dunkin Donuts located at 1126 Capitol Trail. The suspect approached the sales counter and presented the female clerk with a demand note for cash. The note implied that the suspect was armed, however, he did not display a weapon. The clerk complied with the suspect's demands and turned over an undisclosed amount of money to him. The suspect then exited the business and fled in an unknown direction. The victim was not injured.

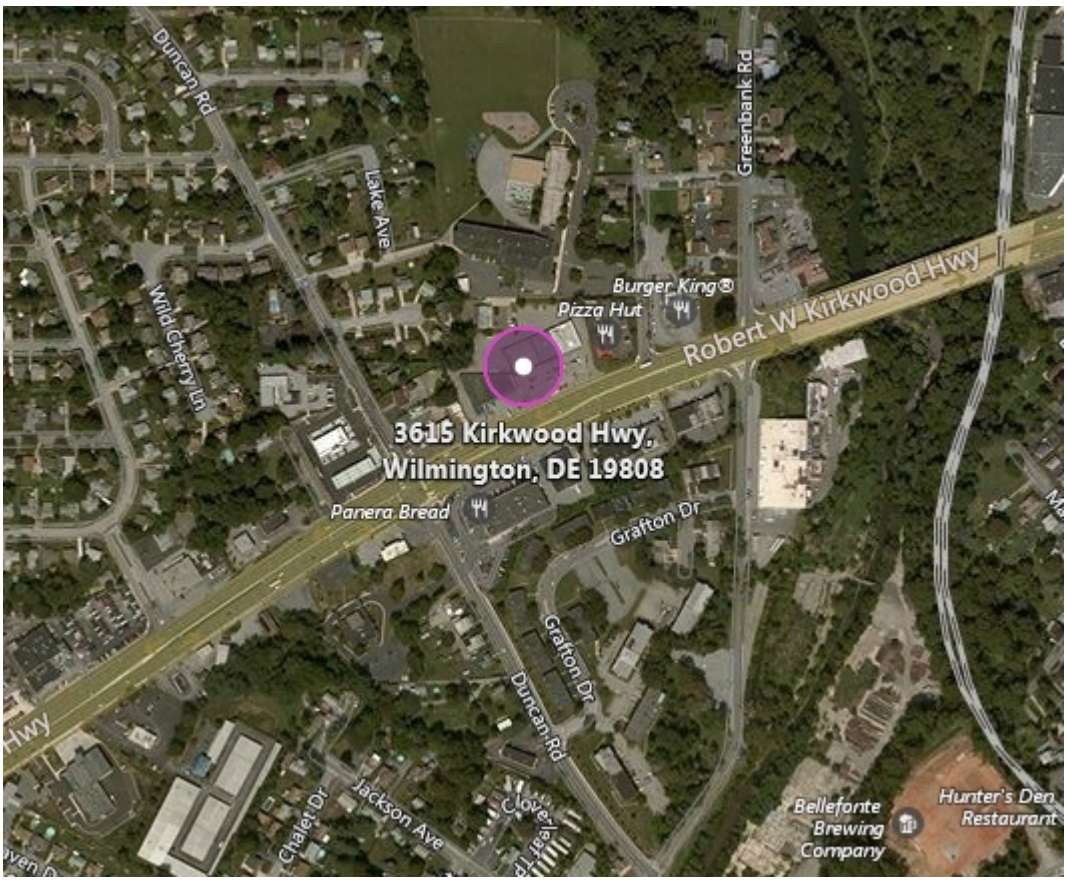
The suspect was described as a white male. He was 5'08"-5'10" tall, weighed 160-190 lbs., and was last seen wearing a black coat, dark sweatpants, and sneakers. There is no further physical or clothing description available. No video surveillance photos are available to be released at this time.

If anyone has any information in reference to this incident they are asked to contact the Robbery Unit at Troop 2 at 302-365-8566. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com, or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword “DSP.”

Released: 031417 1040

###

Troopers Investigate Armed Robbery



Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Wilmington (19808)- Delaware State Police are currently investigating the armed robbery of an individual as he was seated in his car in front of a Wilmington area restaurant last night.

The initial investigation has determined that the incident occurred at approximately 8:23 p.m. last night, Monday, March 13, 2017, as a male victim was seated in his vehicle which was parked in front of the Godavari Restaurant, located at 3615 Kirkwood Highway. It was at this time that the victim was approached by a male suspect who displayed an unknown make and model handgun and demanded money from him. The victim complied with the suspect's demands and turned over an undisclosed amount of cash to him. The suspect then fled the area on foot. The victim was not injured.

The suspect was described as a white male. He was 5'10"-6'00"

tall, and weighed 160-190 lbs. A clothing description for the suspect is not available.

If anyone has any information in reference to this incident they are asked to contact the Robbery Unit at Troop 2 at 302-365-8566. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com, or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

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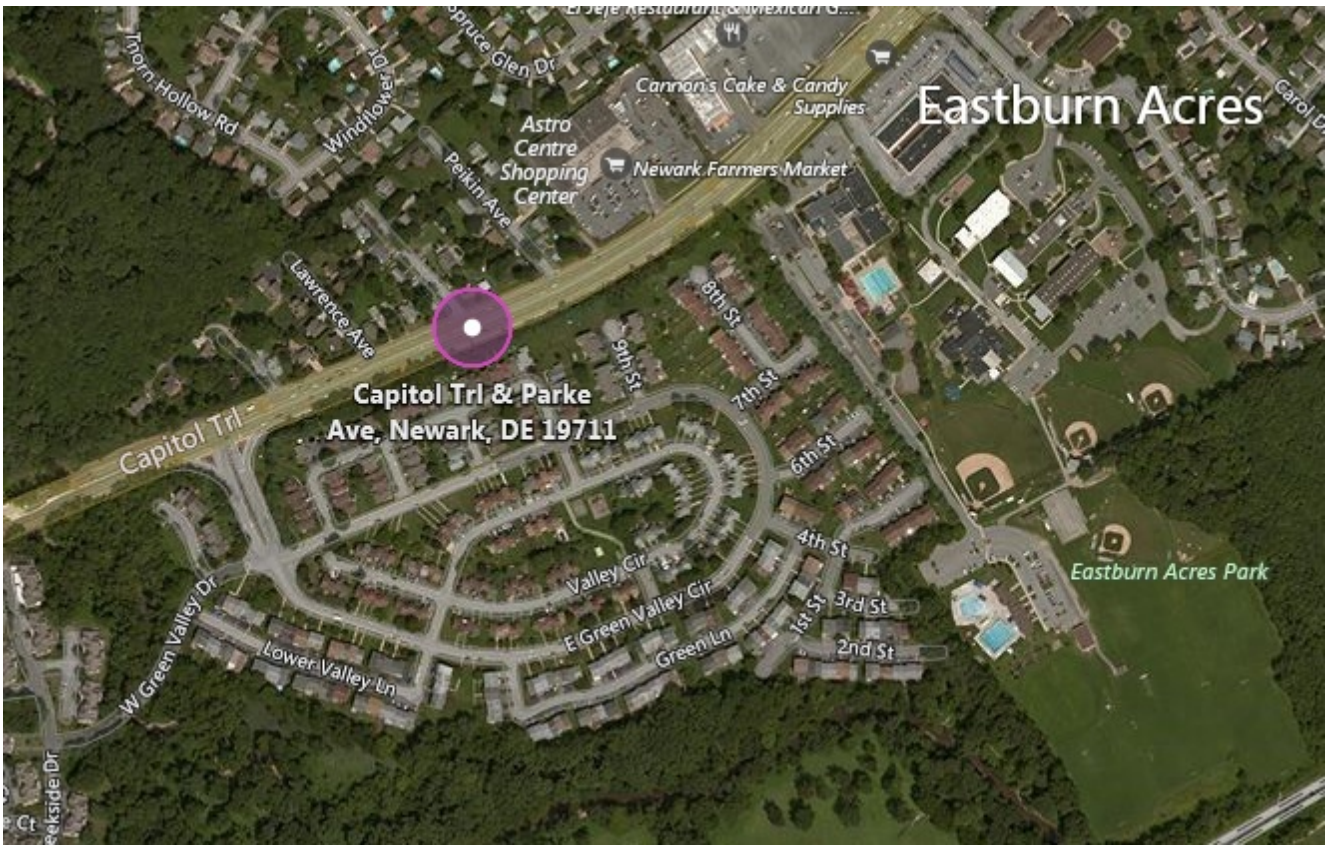
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Released: 031417 1020

###

Troopers Investigating Serious Crash



Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Newark (19711)- The Delaware State Police are currently investigating a three vehicle crash which injured two people that occurred late this morning east of Newark.

The initial investigation has determined that the crash occurred at approximately 10:57 a.m. this morning, Monday, March 13, 2017, as Steven Dericco, 48, of Newark, was operating a 1997 Nissan Pathfinder and was traveling in an eastbound direction in the westbound lanes of DE Rt. 2 (Capitol Trail) approaching Parke Avenue at an apparent high rate of speed. The front of the Pathfinder then struck the front of a 2017 Chevrolet Malibu, which was stopped on the shoulder of westbound Rt. 2 just west of Parke Avenue, and which was being operated by John Morrison, 92, of Elkton, MD. The force of the collision forced the Malibu into the left hand lane of westbound Rt. 2 where it was then stuck by a 2007 Chevrolet Equinox which was being operated by Nancy Lavigne, 49, of Wilmington.

Steven Dericco was treated at the scene by New Castle County Paramedics. He was then transported by ambulance to the Christiana Hospital where he was admitted with serious injuries. Alcohol use on the part of Dericco is being considered as a factor in the crash.

John Morrison was also treated by Paramedics before he was transported by ambulance to the Christiana Hospital where he was treated for his injuries.

Nancy Lavigne was not injured.

This crash remains under investigation. No charges have been filed at this time.

Released: 031317 1540

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###

Troopers Offer Safety Tips In Preparation for Forecasted

Winter Storm



Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Dover-Weather forecasts currently indicate a winter storm that will impact the region beginning this evening Monday, March 13th, and possibly lasting into early tomorrow evening. Heavy snowfall as well as a wintry mix are expected during the storm. This type of weather pattern can create treacherous conditions for motorists who are traveling along Delaware roadways.

Delaware State Police statewide continue to plan and prepare for the forecasted winter storm, as they will be ready and available to patrol, assist disabled vehicles, and manage roadway incidents and hazards for the duration of the event. Most calls for service received by Troopers during winter storms are for vehicle crashes, disabled vehicles, and abandoned vehicles which cause a major problem for DelDOT snow removal equipment and for Troopers responding to emergency situations. Troopers strongly encourage motorists to postpone and avoid unnecessary travel.

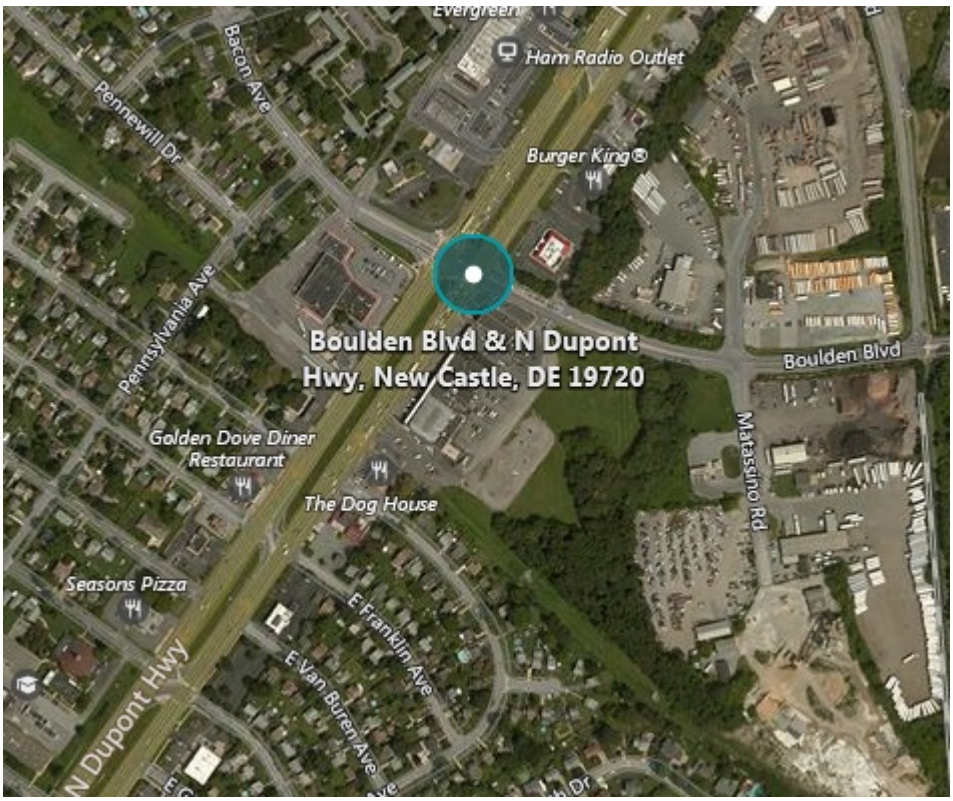
Troopers urge all motorists who must travel to use extreme caution as road and weather conditions may change rapidly over the course of the event. Motorists should be prepared for snow-covered and slippery roads, along with strong winds and limited visibility which make driving conditions difficult. Use caution while driving when approaching intersections and off ramps, especially bridges and overpasses. Remember to reduce speed and increase following distance between vehicles. Allow ample time to reach your destination, allow extra space between vehicles, and keep vehicle headlights on to increase visibility.

This would be an excellent time to check your vehicle ensuring it is in good working order for the expected conditions. Fill up the fuel tank in advance. Check the windshield wipers, windshield wiper fluid, tire tread, battery life, etc. If you should have vehicle problems, be sure to stay with your vehicle, as freezing temperatures can be life-threatening. Be sure to have an emergency kit in the vehicle consisting of a blanket, bottled water, snack, cell phone charger, and a flashlight.

Released: 031317 1300

###

Troopers Investigate Crash Involving a Pedestrian



Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

New Castle (19720)- Delaware State Police investigated a serious motor vehicle crash in which a pedestrian was struck that occurred early this afternoon in New Castle.

The investigation determined that the incident occurred at approximately 12:19 p.m. today, Sunday, March 12, 2017, as Robert Reiber, 59, of Glenshaw, PA was walking in an eastbound direction and was attempting to cross the northbound lanes of US Rt. 13 (N. DuPont Highway) just south of Boulden Boulevard. As Reiber entered into the center lane of Rt. 13, he stepped directly into the path of a 2015 Dodge Ram, which was being operated by Alvery Walls, 52, of Pennsville, NJ. Walls, however, was able to stop his vehicle and avoided striking Reiber. Reiber then continued walking in an eastbound direction and entered the right hand center lane of the highway directly in the path of a 2001 Jeep Cherokee, which was being operated by Gregory Losco, 25, of Wilmington. Losco swerved his vehicle into the center lane in an attempt to avoid striking Reiber, however, upon do so, he struck the

right side of the Dodge Ram. After the impact, Losco's vehicle bounced off of the Dodge and then struck Robert Reiber who was now in the right hand lane.

Robert Reiber, who was not utilizing a marked cross walk at the time of the crash, was treated at the scene by New Castle County Paramedics. He was then transported by EMS to the Christiana Hospital where he was admitted with serious injuries. Reiber was cited for Failure to Yield to Traffic While Crossing a Highway at Other Than a Cross Walk as well as for being Drunk on a Highway. There were no other injuries.

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Released: 031217 2030

###

Troopers Investigating Serious Motor Vehicle Crash-

Update #2 (Name Released)



Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Wilmington- The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit has identified the 66 year old Wilmington man who was killed in the two vehicle crash which occurred yesterday afternoon on Kirkwood Highway at Woodhaven Avenue as Donald Abbott.

This crash remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police.

Released: 031217 0925

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