



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

October 14th, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Driver Arrested, Victim Identified in Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision

Newark Police have arrested 53 year old Robert Perago, of Newark, for his involvement in the fatal motor vehicle collision which occurred at approximately 6:35pm on October 12th at Christina Parkway and South College Avenue.

A preliminary investigation has determined that a 2007 Toyota Camry, which was travelling eastbound in the right lane of Christina Parkway, came to a stop for a traffic light at South College Avenue. A second eastbound vehicle, a 2013 BMW (previously reported as 2012), operated by Perago, failed to stop and struck the rear of the Camry at a high rate of speed. The Camry, which had three occupants, came to rest in the intersection, sustaining heavy rear end damage. The BMW, occupied solely by Perago, came to rest at the south west corner of the intersection, sustaining heavy front end damage. Witnesses observed Perago flee the scene on foot; however, he was quickly apprehended by responding officers just south of the collision scene.

Rescue personnel from Aetna Hose, Hook & Ladder and New Castle County Paramedics responded to the scene and treated the occupants of both vehicles. All were transported via ambulance to Christiana Hospital.

The driver of the Toyota Camry has been identified as 60 year old Gail Dierolf, of Wilmington. The front seat passenger of the Camry has been identified as 65 year old Richard Dierolf, of Wilmington. Both were treated for non life threatening injuries and released from the hospital. The rear seat passenger of the Camry has been identified as 90 year old Cora Williamson, also of Wilmington. Ms. Williamson was pronounced deceased at Christiana Hospital. (NOTE: Ms. Williams was previously identified as 80 years of age.)

Perago, who was found to be under the influence of alcohol, was treated for non life threatening injuries and released from the hospital into police custody. Upon his release on October 13th he was arrested on the below charges. Perago was arraigned at JP Court #11 and released after posting \$12,000 cash bail.

The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us.



PRESS RELEASE, Continued

Defendant: Robert Perago (DOB 09/12/60)
27 Cannons Run
Newark, DE 19702

Charges: Vehicular Homicide 2nd Degree
3rd Offense Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol.

The Newark Police Department Traffic Unit continues their investigation into this crash. Anyone who may have witnessed this collision is asked to contact Corporal Wayne Aston at 302-366-7110 ext. 414 or wayne.aston@cj.state.de.us. You can send an anonymous text message tip by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.tipsubmit.com where a reward may be available.

The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us.

