



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

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TRAIN CRASH FATALITY

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is investigating a train crash fatality that occurred at approximately 1:23 P.M. on Tuesday, August 2nd, 2011. The fatality occurred on a railroad track crossing located between the New River and Southwest 2nd Street in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that a white male was observed running westbound through the Riverfront Plaza, approaching the FEC railroad pedestrian crosswalk. Witnesses stated that the safety rails were in the downward position, alerting all pedestrians to the oncoming train. The male attempted to continue westbound across the tracks and was struck by the northbound freight train. The male was pronounced deceased on-scene.

The male has been identified as Clifford Earl Elder, a Fort Lauderdale resident, 07/15/1977.

Further investigation has revealed that prior to the train crash fatality, Elder was seen running from a Ford F-150 pick-up truck that was engulfed in flames at the intersection of Southwest 2nd Street and South Andrews Avenue. A records check of the vehicle revealed that it belonged to Elder.

This is still an active and open investigation. Detectives are encouraging anyone with information regarding this incident to contact Detective Jagers at 954-828-5970.

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