



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

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TRAFFIC CRASH
FATALITY

Suspect Arrested

UPDATE: 07.03.13

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department Traffic Homicide Unit has received the completed toxicology report from this incident. The report indicates that Russell's blood alcohol level was 0.17 at the time of the blood draw.

Traffic Homicide Investigators obtained an arrest warrant for Russell and charged her with the following;

- (2) counts of DUI Manslaughter
- (2) counts of Unlawful Blood Alcohol Level Manslaughter (UBAL)
- (1) count of DUI Property Damage
- (1) count of UBAL Property Damage

Russell surrendered without incident at the BSO Main Jail this morning at approximately 7:00 A.M.

ORIGINAL: 06.13.13

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is investigating a traffic crash fatality that occurred on Thursday, June 13th at approximately 2:14 A.M. The crash occurred in the 500 block of West Broward Boulevard in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that a 2012 Porsche Panamera was traveling westbound on Broward Boulevard approaching Southwest 5th Avenue. The driver of the Porsche attempted to make a left turn to travel southbound on Southwest 5th Avenue. The driver was unable to successfully complete the turn and drove through the hedge of a nearby parking lot.

At the time of the crash, there were three pedestrians sitting inside this parking lot. One of the three pedestrians was able to escape the path of the oncoming vehicle, while the other two were fatally struck.

The identity of the first pedestrian will not be released until the investigation is complete. The two pedestrians who were fatally injured have been identified as Mackendy Jules, B/M, 04/13/83, and Samuel Artez Martindale, B/M, 09/20/77 both are believed to be Fort Lauderdale residents.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Elyza Rachel Russell, W/F, 04/25/91, a Fort Lauderdale resident. Neither Russell nor her two passengers were injured in the crash.

The identification of the known witnesses will not be released at this time. This incident remains as an active and on-going investigation.

Investigators have reason to believe that Russell was under the influence of an unknown substance at the time of the crash. Charges against Russell are pending further investigation and the results from the toxicology report.

Investigators are urging anyone with information regarding this fatality to contact Traffic Homicide Investigator Graham at 954-828-5125.

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