



CITY OF  
**FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
PRESS RELEASE

Detective Katherine Collins  
Public Information Office  
(954) 828-5464  
KCollins@fortlauderdale.gov

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**LEYRITZ D.U.I.**  
**INVESTIGATION**

UPDATE:

The results of the blood obtained on December 28, 2007 revealed a blood alcohol level of .14% at 6:10am and a .13% at 7:12am.

Leyritz was charged with an additional charge of Manslaughter- Unlawful Blood Alcohol Level.

ORIGINAL RELEASE:

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department Traffic Homicide Unit is investigating a traffic crash fatality that occurred at approximately 3:20am today at the intersection of SW 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Fort Lauderdale.

Preliminary information revealed a 2006 Ford Expedition, driven by James J. Leyritz, 12/27/1963, a Davie resident, approached the intersection northbound and failed to obey a red light.

At the same time a 2000 Mitsubishi Montero, driven by a Fredia Ann Veitch, 6/13/1977, a Plantation resident, entered the intersection.

The vehicles collided within the intersection and Veitch was ejected. She was rushed to Broward General Medical Center where she was pronounced dead. Traffic Homicide Investigators were contacted and responded to the scene.

Officers on scene observed Leyritz to have red, watery eyes, a flushed face and an odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from his person. A DUI investigation was initiated. Leyritz was advised that Veitch had died and was requested to submit to a mandatory blood draw. After he refused, Leyritz was informed that blood would be taken above his refusal. At 6:10am and 7:12am, blood was obtained and subsequently delivered to the Broward County Medical Examiner's Office for analysis.

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[www.FLPD.org](http://www.FLPD.org)

Leyritz has charged with DUI Manslaughter and DUI Property Damage. At this time the investigation is continuing.

Regarding the driver's license of James Leyritz, his Florida driver's license was valid at the time of the crash on December 28, 2007, according to the State of Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles (DHSMV). On December 28, 2007, investigators notified the State of Florida DHSMV of Leyritz's information to be reviewed for suspension. As to the current status of Leyritz's license, please direct your inquiries to the State of Florida DHSMV.



Leyritz



Veitch

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