

FSousa@fortlauderdale.gov

## CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

April 21, 2009

## **ACCIDENT**

## \*PHOTO ON PAGE 2\*

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is investigating an accident that occurred on Monday, April 20, 2009 at approximately 9:30 P.M. The location of the accident was at the 2300 block of South Federal Highway.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that the northbound center and left thru lanes were blocked off for construction and re-paving of the roadway. There were traffic cones dividing the center and right thru lane. The victim, Airsteed Bell, was walking southbound in the northbound center thru lane moving the cones around for trucks to move into the lane. Alexis Martin was operating a dump truck containing asphalt. As Martin was backing up the truck to unload asphalt he did not see Bell. The truck then ran over Bell causing him to go up and underneath the trucks right rear tires. Bell was trapped underneath the tires until Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue was able to release him.

Bell was transported to Broward General Medical Center along with Trauma Surgeons, who were also at the accident scene. Bell is listed in critical condition.

Airsteed Bell is a black male, a Miami resident, and was born on May 20, 1937. The driver of the truck has been identified as Alexis Martin, W/M, a Hialeah resident, born on November 18, 1953.

The investigation into this accident will continue at this time. Anyone with information on this accident is encouraged to contact Traffic Homicide Investigator Jill Hirsch at 954-828-5753.



Airsteed Bell

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P.R.# 2009-037 OR# 09-43068