



POLICE DEPARTMENT
1899 North Squirrel Road
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

MEDIA RELEASE
****UPDATE****

Fatal Crash Investigation (Lapeer Rd. & Walton Blvd.)

As of 5:00 pm, June 7, 2024, the suspect was located and arrested thanks to a vigilant citizen who called 911 when they witnessed someone lying down in a wooded area about ½ mile from the crash site. The suspect is a 38-year-old male resident of Lake Orion. He will be transported and lodged at the Oakland County Jail. This case will be presented to the Oakland County Prosecutors Office for criminal charges. The suspect's identity will be released at a later date after the review of charges and arraignment through the 52/3 District Court.

On Thursday, June 6, 2024, at approximately 7:00 pm, a police officer from the Auburn Hills Police Department witnessed a red 2020 Kia Forte traveling south on Lapeer Road at a high rate of speed. The officer, who was driving a fully marked patrol vehicle equipped with overhead emergency lights, initiated a traffic stop on the red Kia just north of Lapeer West Road. The driver of the red Kia accelerated and fled from the officer's attempt to pull the vehicle over, reaching speeds of 88 MPH. The officer terminated the pursuit at Zelma Drive approximately ½ mile after initiating the traffic stop. The officer turned off the patrol vehicle's emergency lights and stopped his vehicle. The red Kia continued south on Lapeer Road, over a small hill, toward Walton Blvd. The officer witnessed smoke coming from the intersection of Walton Blvd and Perry Street and responded to investigate.

Upon pulling up to the intersection, the officer confirmed that the red Kia had crashed into a tan 2002 Ford F-150. The initial investigation revealed that the male driver of the red Kia had fled the scene on foot. A female passenger of the red Kia was found at the scene in critical condition. The male driver of the tan F-150 was trapped in the vehicle and in critical condition. Personnel from the Auburn Hills Fire Department responded to the scene and extricated the male from the F-150. The female passenger of the red Kia and the male driver of the tan F-150 were both taken to area hospitals. The female passenger of the red Kia remains in critical but stable condition. The driver of the F-150, a 68-year-old man from Auburn Hills, died at the hospital.

Officers on the scene, with the assistance of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office K-9 team, attempted to locate the driver of the Kia. However, he could not be located and is still at large. The investigation is still very active, and investigators are using all available resources to locate and arrest the person responsible for this tragic crash. Based on the information that we have currently, there is no reason to believe there is any further danger to the public.

The crash is being investigated by Auburn Hills Investigators and the Southeast Oakland County Crash Investigation Team (SOCCIT). SOCCIT consists of crash investigators from Auburn Hills, Bloomfield Twp., Troy, Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, and Clawson.

Anyone who may have witnessed the crash or have information on the identity of the responsible driver is asked to contact the Auburn Hills Police Department at 248-370-9460.

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