



MEDIA ADVISORY

Loveland Police Department

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Chief of Police

For Immediate Release
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LOVELAND POLICE INVESTIGATING FATAL PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENT

On April 6, 2023, at 1:19p.m., the Loveland Police Department dispatch center received a report of a vehicle versus pedestrian accident in the parking lot of Walmart located at 250 West 65th Steet in Loveland. Police and other emergency personnel responded to the scene. Upon arrival personnel observed a 27- year- old male was trapped under a 2016 Chevy passenger vehicle. The driver of the vehicle was identified as an 83-year-old female resident of Loveland.

Rescue efforts were unsuccessful. The 27-year-old male was pronounced deceased at the scene. The deceased male was an employee of Walmart and was in the process of returning carts to the store when the accident occurred. The female driver remained on scene and is cooperating with the investigation.

There are no signs of impairment and speed is believed to not be a factor. Loveland Police Detectives are continuing to investigate. Anyone who may have witnessed the accident are asked to call Detective Mu at (970)962-2217.

The Larimer County Coroner's Office will release the identity of the deceased male at a later date.

Update 07-03-23

In the initial phase of the investigation the Larimer County District Attorney's Office delayed any charging decisions until receiving toxicology reports on the driver's blood sample she voluntarily submitted at time of the accident. These results were returned, the analysis of the blood was negative for any alcohol or other substances which could have attributed to the accident.

On July 3, 2023, Valerie Jean Smith, 83, of Loveland was issued a summons for: Careless driving causing death, CRS: 42-4-1402(2)(c), a class 1 Traffic Misdemeanor.

The charges are merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

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The information contained in this news release is based on preliminary information available at the time of drafting. The Loveland Police Department's understanding of this incident may change as additional evidence is collected, analyzed, and reviewed. The purpose of this news release is to provide timely information to the public.