



Leon County Sheriff's Office
2825 Municipal Way
Tallahassee, FL 32312
(850) 922-3300

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Larry Campbell
Sheriff

Sgt. Chris Chase
Public Information Office
(850) 922-0732

Driver of Truck Involved in Fatal Crash Charged

Tallahassee- The driver of a 2001 Chevrolet Pickup involved in the Valentine's Day traffic fatality has been charged with two counts of Manslaughter by Driving Under the Influence. Leon County Sheriff's Deputies arrested the driver, Patrick William Cannella, at his home last night after Traffic Homicide Investigator Steve Barrow obtained warrants.

Deputy Barrow said "evidentiary findings in the investigation show Cannella was traveling well above the posted speed just prior to the impact and he had a blood alcohol level of 2 and ½ times the legal limit, all contributing to the cause of the crash and ultimately the deaths of Jarrod Cooper and Jerrien Johnson.

"For the Traffic Homicide Investigators, there are many steps that must be taken in determining the cause of a crash involving deaths. We empathize with the surviving family that must bear the burden of waiting for all the evidence to be compiled to determine the cause. It is a difficult time for all involved" said Sgt. Chris Chase, LCSO spokesman.

Patrick William Cannella was booked into the Leon County Jail and held for first appearance before a judge.

Sheriff Larry Campbell said "this is an incredibly tragic story; two have lost their lives, one is now charged with manslaughter and there are children that will grow up without parents. I can not say it enough, you not only have the option but you have a responsibility to not drink and drive".



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