



Release of Public Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Charges Filed in December 2007 Traffic Homicide

On Friday, December 7, 2007, at approximately 7:00 p.m. an automobile crash with fatalities occurred at the intersection of Miccosukee Road and Welaunee Road. A 1997 Honda driven by John Utermohle, DOB: 06/19/1990, along with his passenger Christopher Hefren, 17yoa, was westbound on Miccosukee Road. A 1991 Mazda Miata driven by Linda MacLean, 57yoa, was eastbound on Miccosukee Road. As MacLean made a left turn onto Welaunee Plantation, Utermohle's vehicle struck the passenger side of her vehicle. Linda MacLean died on scene and Christopher Hefren died later at the hospital due to extensive internal injuries. Utermohle was transported to the hospital via LifeNet due to his injuries and has since recovered.

During the crash investigation marijuana was found in Utermohle's vehicle. Blood drawn from Utermohle the night of the crash was sent to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement toxicology lab for analysis and tested positive for Marijuana (Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol). The quantitative level of Marijuana in Utermohle's blood system was indicative of someone who was under the influence of the drug at the time of the crash. The investigation also revealed Utermohle was operating his vehicle at the minimum speed of 76.51 miles per hour when he impacted the passenger's side of MacLean's vehicle. The posted speed limit for this area of Miccosukee Road is 45 miles per hour.

At the time of the crash Utermohle was a juvenile, 17yoa; however the State Attorney's Office reviewed this investigation and has charged him as an adult with two counts of Vehicular Homicide.

Arrested: John Utermohle

DOB: 06/19/1990



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