



LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

100 Parklane Drive • Eagleville, PA 19403
Phone: (610) 539-5901 • Fax: (610) 630-2219
Email: police@lowerprovidence.org



Francis L. Carroll, *Chief of Police*

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fatal Crash Under Investigation

LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP (*February 5, 2015*) – On Thursday, February 5, 2015, at 11:16 A.M., Lower Providence Township Police Department officers came upon a motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Ridge Pike and East Mount Kirk Avenue in the Eagleville section of Lower Providence Township.

The police officers located three vehicles that had been involved in the accident at the scene. A black Ford Escort operated by Harold Perkins, 63, of the 100 block of Colonial Avenue Norristown, PA 19403 had been traveling westbound on Ridge Pike. A silver Jeep Cherokee operated by Michael Maloney, 43, of the 4000 block of Cardin Place was also traveling westbound on Ridge Pike. A white Ford van operated by Vincente Vargas, 32, of the unit block of Wilson Boulevard, Eagleville, PA 19403 was traveling eastbound on Ridge Pike.

Simultaneously, the Montgomery County Communications Center was receiving calls from motorists reporting a black Ford Escort driving erratically westbound on Ridge Pike. An additional report was received of a hit and run accident at Ridge Pike and Hillside Avenue, in which a vehicle described as a black Ford Escort traveling westbound on Ridge Pike had struck a vehicle being operated by Michael Casino, 47, of the 1100 block of Meadowbrook Lane, Perkiomenville, PA, and fled the scene after the collision. Neither Casino nor a passenger in his vehicle were injured as a result of that accident.

Perkins, the driver of the black Ford Escort, was trapped in his vehicle, which had sustained severe front end damage, and he was extricated from the vehicle by the Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company. He was transported by Lower Providence Ambulance to Einstein Montgomery Medical Center. He was pronounced dead at the hospital.

Maloney, the driver of the Jeep Cherokee, which had sustained damage to the rear of the vehicle, was transported to Einstein Montgomery Medical Center by Lower Providence Ambulance for treatment of injuries sustained in the accident.

Vargas did not seek medical attention at the time of the accident investigation.

The investigation determined that Perkins was driving westbound on Ridge Pike in an erratic manner. According to witnesses, he was driving in the center turn lane and at times was traveling westbound in the eastbound lane. His vehicle struck the vehicle driven by Casino and continued westbound on Ridge Pike. As his vehicle approached the intersection of Ridge Pike and East Mount Kirk Avenue, Maloney was stopped in the westbound turning lane of Ridge Pike and his vehicle was struck from behind by Perkins' vehicle.



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Perkins' vehicle then caromed into the eastbound lane where it collided with the vehicle being driven by Vargas. Perkins' and Vargas' vehicles came to rest partially in the eastbound and westbound left turning lane of Ridge Pike, Maloney's vehicle came to rest at the northwest corner of the intersection.

An autopsy will be conducted by the Montgomery County Coroner's Office at an undetermined date and time to determine the cause and manner of Perkins' death.

Ridge Pike was closed until 2:15 P.M. as the accident investigation was being conducted.

The accident investigation is being conducted by the Lower Providence Township Police Department Traffic Unit. Anyone who may have information concerning the accident is requested to contact Off. Richard W. Aston, 610-539-5901.

Assistance was provided at the accident scene by the Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company and their Fire Police Unit, the Lower Providence Ambulance, the Jefferson Fire Company Fire Police Unit, and the Collegeville Fire Company Fire Police Unit. The Jeffstat medical helicopter responded to the scene but was not placed into service.

Chief F.L. Carroll
2/5/15 1502 Hrs.

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