

“For Immediate Release”



Auburndale Police Department News Release

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Arrest Made in Auburndale Fatal Crash

At approximately 9:36 p.m. on Sunday, January 12, 2020, officers of the Auburndale Police Department were dispatched to a traffic crash involving a passenger vehicle and a pick-up truck at the intersection of U.S. Highway 92 West and Berkley Road, Auburndale.

The investigation determined that a 2005 Nissan Altima with five passengers was stopped facing west at the red traffic signal on US 92 at its intersection with Berkley Road. A 2006 Chevrolet HD3500 crew cab pick-up truck was traveling west on US 92 and struck the Nissan in the rear. The collision propelled the Nissan into the southbound lanes of Berkley Road, coming to rest just north of the intersection. The truck continued through the intersection in a northwest direction, traveled through a ditch on the north side of US 92, and then struck a tree, coming to rest.

A rear passenger in the Nissan, Jean Baptiste, 38, of Lakeland, died of her injuries.

Further investigation determined and confirmed Salvador Manuel Juarez Trejo, 43, of Auburndale, the driver of the Chevrolet, was under the influence at the time of the crash. Today, an arrest warrant was obtained for Juarez Trejo charging Juarez Trejo with DUI manslaughter, DUI with serious bodily injury, and DUI with property damage. Juarez Trejo has been located, taken into custody and delivered to the Polk County Jail.

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