



Chief Dana Wingert

Press Release

For immediate release

Contact: Sergeant Paul Parizek
Public Information Officer
Police Department
(515)732-5115
pjparizek@dmgov.org

23 November 2023

On 23 November 2023, at approximately 1:38 a.m., a Des Moines Police Department patrol officer attempted to initiate a traffic stop of a vehicle displaying fraudulent license plates near SE 5th Street and Hughes Avenue.

The driver, a 46-year-old male, sped away from the officer. Also in the vehicle was a 66-year-old female passenger.

Approximately 36 seconds later, as the driver fled southbound on SE 8th Street at a high-rate of speed, he failed to negotiate a turn. His vehicle, a 1996 Chevrolet Lumina, left the roadway and crashed into a ditch south of Emma Avenue.

Des Moines Fire Department medics transported both occupants to local hospitals. Despite lifesaving efforts at the scene and hospital, the passenger has died. The driver remains hospitalized in serious condition.

The driver has an active felony arrest warrant, unrelated to this incident, and will remain under guard while hospitalized.

The Des Moines Police Department Traffic Unit is investigating this incident. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available for release.

This is the 17th traffic-related fatality of 2023.

UPDATE: 10:30 a.m., 23 November 2023

The person killed in this incident has been identified as 66-year-old Des Moines resident Connie Allison. Attached is a photo provided by her family.

The driver of the vehicle remains hospitalized at this time.

The Des Moines Police Department Traffic Unit continues the technical investigation of this incident. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available for release.

UPDATE: 5:00 a.m., 27 November 2023

Investigators with the Des Moines Police Department Traffic Unit have arrested the driver of the vehicle involved in this incident.

46-year-old Des Moines resident Shawn Michael Bowersock has been charged with the following offenses:

- Homicide By Vehicle – Eluding
- Possession Of A Controlled Substance
- Driving While License Suspended
- Fraudulent Use Of Registration
- No Insurance

At the time of this incident, Bowersock had an active arrest warrant.

The Des Moines Police Department Traffic Unit continues this investigation. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available for release.

UPDATE: 8:30 a.m., 20 December 2023

The Des Moines Police Department Traffic Unit has filed an additional charge in this investigation.

Bowersock has been charged with the following offense:

- Homicide By Vehicle – OWI

A search warrant was obtained for lab testing of blood on the date of this incident. The results indicated the presence of both methamphetamine and fentanyl.

Bowersock remains in custody at the Polk County Jail.

The Des Moines Police Department Traffic Unit continues this investigation. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available for release.

Sgt. Paul Parizek