



CITY OF FITCHBURG

Police Department
Thomas A. Blatter, Chief of Police

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****PRESS RELEASE****

02/18/2012

On 02/18/2012 officers from the Fitchburg Police Department responded to the 5100 Blk of Lacy Rd for a crash with five victims. The investigation showed the vehicle was eastbound on Lacy Rd and failed to stop at Syene Rd. The vehicle continued eastbound and went airborne while crossing railroad tracks. The driver lost control and struck a utility pole and over turned. Four of the five occupants were ejected from the vehicle. Lifesaving attempts by police officers and paramedics were unsuccessful on three subjects who were pronounced dead at the scene. A fourth subject was transported by Med-Flight for life threatening injuries. The fifth subject who was not ejected fled the scene and was later apprehended a few blocks from the crash. He was transported to a local hospital for non-life threatening injuries. Alcohol and speed appear to be a factor in the crash. It appears that no one in the vehicle was wearing their safety belts.

The fifth subject was arrested for three counts of homicide by intoxicated use of a motor vehicle. More charges are expected.

At his time we have not identified all subjects involved in the crash. We will not be releasing names or ages until all subjects have been identified and next of kin has been notified. A press release will be issued when names are released.

Assisting at the scene were Dane County Sheriff's Office, Town of Madison Police Department, Fitchburg Fire Department and Madison Fire Department.

****Update****

On 02/19/2012 the fourth victim in the crash died at a local hospital. Autopsies were conducted on all four victims today. The Medical Examiner's Office plans on releasing their names on 02/20/2012.

Arrested: Victor H Benitez, age 18 of Madison, WI. Tentatively charge with four counts of homicide by intoxicated use of a motor vehicle.

Prepared By: Sgt. Don Bomkamp
Phone #: 270-4300
Case: 12-2985

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Anyone with information is asked to call the Madison Area Crime Stoppers at 266-6014. Callers can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.