



PRESS RELEASE

Advanced Tech leads Warren Police to Fatal Hit & Run Suspect in 7 hours

The Warren Police Department would like to announce the arrest of a motorist involved in a fatal hit-and-run crash that occurred early Saturday morning. The pedestrian, a 54-year-old female resident of Warren, has since died from her injuries. 24-year-old Earnest Square of Detroit was taken into custody less than seven hours after the incident and now faces several charges.

The crash occurred at approximately 4:00 a.m. Saturday on Van Dyke north of 9 Mile Road. Officers dispatched to the scene discovered a 54-year-old female pedestrian suffering from life-threatening injuries. Initial evidence indicated that a vehicle traveling southbound on Van Dyke struck the victim while she was in the roadway. The driver failed to stop, render aid, or notify authorities, fleeing the scene immediately following the crash. The victim was transported to a local hospital in serious condition, where she was later pronounced deceased as a result of injuries sustained during the incident.

With no initial eyewitness descriptions and minimal physical evidence at the scene, investigators utilized advanced accident reconstruction methodologies and FLOCK license plate reader cameras to develop leads. Within hours of the incident, investigators identified the suspect vehicle as a Chevy Malibu. The vehicle was subsequently located at a residence in Detroit, where officers observed fresh damage consistent with the crash. Investigators made contact with Square who admitted to being the driver of the Chevy during the crash. Square was then taken into custody without incident by investigators.

On 05/19/2026, the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office reviewed the file and charged Square with Leaving the Scene of an Accident causing death (15-year felony) and one count of driving while unlicensed causing death (15-year-felony). Square was arraigned at the 37th District Court by Judge Chupa on 05/20/2026 wherein a not guilty plea was entered. His bond was set at \$250,000 cash/surety only. Square has no previous convictions.

"I am incredibly proud of the swift, meticulous work of our detectives, whose expertise allowed us to resolve this critical incident within hours," said Police Commissioner Eric Hawkins. "To our community: please know that we treat these cases with the highest priority and will exhaust every resource to find those who leave victims behind. Our hearts go out to the victim's family during this devastating time. We must reinforce that if you are in a crash, stopping immediately is paramount. Accidents happen, but leaving the scene turns a tragedy into a major felony."

The crash remains under active investigation by the Traffic Crash Reconstruction Unit.

**For further information, please contact Warren Police Commissioner
Eric Hawkins 586-574-4803 #####**