

NEWS RELEASE

Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes

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UPDATE: ONE PERSON KILLED IN A MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT IN THE AREA OF ROUTE 3 EAST AND GROVE STREET IN CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

July 24, 2024

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes and Clifton Police Chief Thomas Rinaldi announce that on July 22, 2024, at approximately 11:00 a.m., the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office received information from the Clifton Police Department that a motor vehicle crash occurred resulting in an explosion. A commercial truck traveling on Route 3 East in Clifton clipped a New Jersey Transit Bus carrying 29 passengers before crashing into a barrier causing the vehicle to catch fire. After the fire was brought under control by members of the Clifton Fire Department, the body of the driver, Luis Santiago, a 55-year-old male from Linden, New Jersey, was discovered. There were no reported injuries to any of the passengers on the New Jersey Transit Bus.

The cause of the vehicle crash is undetermined at this time. This investigation is active and ongoing. More information will be released when it becomes available.

The Passaic County Prosecutor's Office asks anyone with additional information about this incident to contact us on our tips line at 1-877-370-PCPO or tips@passaiccountynj.org.

For media inquiries concerning this case, contact Chief Assistant Prosecutor Allan Nawrocki of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Fatal Investigations Unit at anawrocki@passaiccountynj.org or at (973) 837-7768.