



TARPON SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA RELEASE

Robert P. Kochen
CHIEF OF POLICE

"Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing"

Date: September 22, 2018

Time: 9:00am

On Saturday September 22, 2018, at approximately 6:08am, members from the Tarpon Springs Police Department responded to a vehicular crash involving a pedestrian on U.S. Hwy 19 just south of the intersection of Spruce St.

Upon arrival, officers observed a red Nissan pick-up truck facing in a southeast direction in the through lane closest to the shoulder. They also found a 27 year old, African American Female laying off the side of the road in the grassy area, and three small children standing in the grassy area, next to her. Officers immediately began administering first aid, due to the pedestrian being unresponsive, having a slow pulse and shallow breathing. Officers eventually lost the pulse and started performing CPR. Fire Rescue arrived and assumed the living saving measures.

The vehicle is described as a 2008 Nissan pick-up truck and had minor front-end damage that was consistent with striking a pedestrian.

The female pedestrian was transported to Florida Hospital of North Pinellas as a trauma alert from a serious head injury. She was later transported to Tampa General Hospital in critical condition.

The female was the mother of the two-year-old girl and one of the six-year-old boys and the legal guardian of the other six-year-old boy. The two-year-old female is currently being treated at Florida Hospital of North Pinellas for minor non-life threatening injuries.

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444 S. HUEY AVE., TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34689 - PHONE (727) 938-2849
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Update*****

September 22, 2018@11:15am

During the investigation it was determined the female was pushing a baby stroller with the two year old in the stroller, and the 2 six year olds walking next to her. They were all traveling south bound on U.S. Hwy 19, just south of the Spruce St. intersection. The female was straddling the fog line between the shoulder and the right hand turn lane for Pine St. The stroller was being pushed, by the adult female and was very close to the fog line, on the grass side. The two six year olds were walking side by side on the paved shoulder, between the stroller and the grass. The Nissan had just entered the turn lane to make a right turn onto Pine St., when he did not see any of the pedestrians and struck the adult female only. The impact caused the stroller to flip over and the 2 year old was ejected, but not struck by the vehicle. The driver of the pick up immediately stopped at the scene, assisted and has cooperated with investigators.

The female has been identified as 27 year old Tymira Latrel Levenson of Tarpon Springs and has succumb to her injuries at 8:44am on September 22, 2018.

The 2 year old girl has been identified as Deava Dixon, the 6 year old male has been identified as Tre'Mont Triplett, and both are her biological children, the other 6 year old female has been identified as Layla Lewis and Tymira Latrel Levenson was her legal guardian. Deava has been released and all three children were turned over to the decedents mother Ms. Stacey Levenson of Clearwater.

The driver of the Nissan has been identified as 33 year old Joseph Vitale of Port Richey.

No further information is being released at this time, as the investigation is still ongoing. Any other witnesses are asked to call Investigator Matthew Geer or Sgt. Frank Ruggiero at (727) 938-2849.



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