For Immediate Release
July 9, 2012

Stolen Vehicle/PSTA Bus Crash at 11 Avenue South and 25th Street

Incident Type:
Serious Injury Crash

Date/Time of Incident:
July 9, 2012 / 1805 hours

Address/Location:
11th Avenue South / 25th Street

Synopsis:
Gulfport Police (GPPD report #2012-13319) had been in pursuit of a stolen vehicle, a 2012 Toyota 4 door, FL tag 813XRT. The Toyota was being driven by Derrick Deon Mims, a Habitual Traffic Offender with a revoked Florida driver’s license. Also within the Toyota was Mims’ 2 year old son, Derrick Mims Jr, who was unrestrained and was without a child seat; as well as Chad Springer and another unidentified Black Male. Mims led Gulfport through their City and then into our City, exiting the Interstate at 28th Street South. Mims turned into the neighborhood, ultimately heading eastbound on 11th Avenue South. After running several stop signs, Mims entered the intersection of 25th Street, running another stop sign and driving into the path of a P.S.T.A. bus.

The P.S.T.A. bus was being driven by Eugene Noble, a veteran driver with P.S.T.A. There were five passengers also on the bus. Both vehicles swerved slightly just prior to impact. The right front corner of the P.S.T.A. bus struck the left front corner of the Toyota. Both vehicles then stayed together and left the southeast corner of the intersection, striking the front porch of 1114 25 Street South. No one was home at the time of the crash.

The right rear passenger of the Toyota fled the scene of foot and is still at unidentified. Everyone else was transported to area hospitals. Only the right front seat passenger of the Toyota, Chad Springer, was being listed in critical condition.

Victim’s Biographical Information:
Chad Springer, B/M, 03/07/1992, 4627 2 Av S, St Pete - R/F Seat Passenger of Toyota
Derrick Mims Jr, B/M, 10/25/2009, 2451 11 Av S, St Pete - L/R Seat Passenger of Toyota
Eugene Noble, W/M, 09/10/1951, 13200 3 St E, Maderia Bch - P.S.T.A Bus Driver
Wesley Harris, B/M, 08/19/1997, 2433 20 St S, St Pete - P.S.T.A Bus Passenger
Melissa Harris, B/F, 03/06/1970, 2433 20 St S, St Pete - P.S.T.A Bus Passenger
Evelyn Bell, B/F, 09/20/1958, 2317 Johnny Ruth Clark Pl, St Pete - P.S.T.A Bus Passenger
Delya Edward, B/F, 03/29/1977, 2400 15 Av S #51, St Pete - P.S.T.A Bus Passenger
Bernastine Cannida, B/F, 05/25/1954, 2400 15 Av S #51, St Pete - P.S.T.A Bus Passenger

Arrested Person’s Name and Charges (if applicable):
Derrick Deon Mims, B/M, 12/08/1990
4600 34th Street South #237
St. Petersburg, FL
Grand Theft Auto, Fleeing & Eluding, Child Endangerment;
Investigation to Continue

Release Prepared by:
Officer Michael Jockers (Van 1)

For additional information, please contact the St. Petersburg Police Public Information Office at 727-893-7550 during normal business hours; weekdays from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.