DUI Fatality

Video from the DUI officer's car: https://youtu.be/8Q1hPOX14zg

Date / Time of Incident: April 11th, 2015 / 0205 hrs
Incident: Fatal Pedestrian Crash Location: 10 block of 2nd Street North

A 2015 Dodge Charger, (Hertz rental car) was being driven by Jason Lanard Mitchell (08/31/1989) at a high rate of speed, eastbound on 4th Avenue North, after exiting the Interstate.

Members of the St Petersburg Police Department DUI squad saw the driving, and attempted to stop the vehicle as it slowed to turn onto 2nd Street. The Dodge accelerated at a very high rate, clearly indicating it was not going to stop. The officers immediately shut their emergency equipment off.

The Dodge continued accelerating southbound, running red lights at 3rd Avenue North and 2nd Avenue South.

Two Pedestrians, Aaron Jerome Davis (06/21/1983) and Brian Lee LaFrance (05/13/1986) were crossing 2nd Street in the north crosswalk of Central Avenue. The pedestrians had the green light and the crossing signal on the pedestrian control head. Witnesses were stopped in the southbound curb lane, just north of the crosswalk. The Dodge passed the witnesses, running the red light and striking the two pedestrians.
LaFrance was sideswiped and spun onto the pavement. Davis was projected onto the hood and windshield, before vaulting over the roof. Davis came to rest on the west sidewalk of 2nd Street, approximately 100 feet south of Central Avenue.

The Dodge drove off the southwest corner of the intersection, striking two concrete light pillars, ripping the right front wheel off of the vehicle. The Dodge continued scraping along, coming to final rest just prior to 1st Avenue South. Mitchell and his passenger (Rayvorris Altuan Oliver, 04/02/1988) exited the vehicle and fled west on 1st Avenue South, then south in the alley just west of McNulty Station. With the assistance of club staff, the two subjects were apprehended at Push Ultra Lounge.

LaFrance was transported to Bayfront Health St Petersburg in critical condition and has since been stabilized. Davis was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Probable Cause was developed to charge Mitchell with Vehicular Homicide; DUI Manslaughter; Aggravated Fleeing and Eluding; Leaving the Scene of a Crash Involving Death; DUI Serious Bodily Injury. While in custody in the Breath Testing Center of police headquarters, Mitchell attempted to escape and was quickly apprehended.

Davis' wife, Anastasia Davis was notified of her husband's death.

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