



# Pembroke Pines Police Department



9500 Pines Boulevard · Pembroke Pines · Florida 33024

Administrative Phone – 954-436-3200

24 Hour Dispatch – 954-431-2200

PIO On-Call Number – 954-252-5029

## MEDIA RELEASE

**ASSIGNED PIO:** Captain Eric Abrahamson

**DATE OF MEDIA RELEASE:** May 10, 2021

**TIME OF MEDIA RELEASE:** 9:45 p.m.

**CASE NUMBER:** PPPD21OFF029423

**CHARGE/INCIDENT:** Traffic Crash – Fatality

**DATE OF OCCURRENCE:** May 10, 2021

**TIME OF OCCURRENCE:** 5:38 p.m.

**PLACE OF OCCURRENCE:** 15800 Pines Blvd, Pembroke Pines, FL

**DRIVER(S) - NAME, AGE, DOB, RACE, SEX, ADDRESS:**

Driver 1 – Vehicle 1: Joan Ferris Berkowitz, 68 years old, 1/25/53, white female, 672 NW 162 Ave, Pembroke Pines, FL 33028

**VICTIM(S) - NAME, AGE, DOB, RACE, SEX, ADDRESS:**

15-year-old male

**INCIDENT SUMMARY:**

On Monday, May 10, 2021, members of the Pembroke Pines Police and Fire Departments responded to a traffic crash at the 15800 block of Pines Blvd involving a vehicle versus a bicyclist.

A preliminary investigation revealed that Driver 1, Ms. Joan Ferris Berkowitz, was operating a 2004 Mercury Monterey minivan which was traveling southbound in the Westfork Plaza and preparing to turn right onto (westbound) Pines Blvd. The victim, a 15-year-old male, was riding his bicycle eastbound on the sidewalk. As the minivan was exiting the plaza it struck the juvenile male, who was attempting to cross the plaza entrance, and dragged him underneath the vehicle for approximately 30 yards before coming to a stop.

The vehicle had to be lifted up by first responders in order for the juvenile male to be removed

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact the Pembroke Pines Police Department at 954-431-2200, email to [tips@ppines.com](mailto:tips@ppines.com), or call Broward Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS.



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from beneath the minivan.

The victim was transported to Memorial Regional Hospital and ultimately died as a result of the injuries sustained from the traffic accident.

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