



Richmond Police Department

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UPDATE - JULY 8th, 2016:

The operator of the overturned Jeep Wrangler involved in the fatal motor vehicle accident was identified as **Paul L. Hanlon**, age 50, of Norwich, CT. He remains hospitalized at RI Hospital. His daughter, **Grace E. Hanlon**, age 16, of the same address, was pronounced deceased at South County Hospital as a result of injuries she sustained in the crash.

Please keep the victim and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you,
Chief Elwood Johnson

FATAL MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT

On Thursday, July 7th, 2016, at approximately 12:11 PM, the Richmond Police Department received 911-calls reporting a motor vehicle collision in which one of the involved vehicles rolled over with the occupants trapped inside. Members of the Richmond Police Department were joined at the scene by the Hope Valley Ambulance Corps, along with the Carolina and Hope Valley-Wyoming Fire Departments.

Investigation revealed that a line of vehicles traveling in the eastbound lane of Route 138 slowed to a stop as an eastbound vehicle ahead of the line slowed to a stop to turn left onto Old Usquepaugh Road. As the trailing eastbound vehicles slowed, the operator of a 2010 Chevrolet Impala applied his brakes but was unable to avoid a collision, steering towards the westbound (opposite) lane he initially collided with the driver's side rear bumper of the 2013 Lexus SUV ahead of him, and then crossed the center line into the westbound lane where he struck a 2007 Jeep Wrangler. The head-on collision caused the Jeep to rollover and crash into a telephone/utility pole on the westbound shoulder. The driver and passenger of the Jeep were entrapped in the wreckage, and were attended to by first responders and motorists at the scene. The 50-year-old male driver of the Jeep and his 16-year-old daughter, both of Connecticut, were successfully extricated from the vehicle by members of the fire department. The female passenger, who was unresponsive at the scene, was transported by rescue to South County Hospital where she was pronounced dead. The male operator of the Jeep, who was conscious and alert at the scene, was transported by Life Star helicopter to RI Hospital for his injuries. The names of the deceased victim and her father are being withheld pending the notification to her next-of-kin.

The occupants of the other two involved vehicles declined medical attention. Preliminary investigation did not reveal evidence of impairment by alcohol/drugs by any of the drivers involved in the crash. The Richmond Police Department conducted accident scene reconstruction, and shall evaluate the evidence to ascertain whether any other factors may have

contributed to the collision. The 21-year-old male operator of the Chevrolet Impala, **Jared K. Bixby**, of Wilmington, North Carolina, was cited at the scene with civil motor vehicle infractions of (1) *Leaving the Lane of Travel (Right Half of Roadway)*, and (2) *Intervals between Vehicles - Following too Close*.