



# Media Information

Columbus Division of Police  
Traffic Bureau / Accident Investigation Unit

Date: 1/3/23

Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Public Information Office Phone: (614) 645 - 4593  
Ext:

Type of Offense/Incident: Fatal Traffic Crash

Date: 1/3/23

Time: 6:03pm

Location of Offense/Incident: E. Broad St. & Mt. Carmel service Rd.

Zone: 2

Precinct: 14

Incident Report #: 230007205

Cruiser District: 144

Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:

Suspect:	Address:
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrested <input type="checkbox"/> Warrant on File	Sex: Race: Age:
Charges:	
Suspect:	Address:
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrested <input type="checkbox"/> Warrant on File	Sex: Race: Age:
Charges:	

**Incident Summary:** On 1/3/23 at 6:03pm a gray GMC truck that was being driven by Mr. Keith Finnerty (57) of Pataskala Ohio, was traveling eastbound on E. Broad St approaching the Mt. Carmel East traffic light. At this same time a black Kia Forte that was being driven by Mr. Hridesh Dhakal (20) of Pataskala Ohio, was traveling westbound on E. Broad St. turning into Mt. Carmel East Hospital. The GMC and the Kia collided in the intersection. The Kia then struck a gray Lexus RX that was being driven by Mrs. Beata Sterkowicz (52) of New Albany Ohio, that was stopped at the red traffic light exiting Mt. Carmel East. Mr. Dhakal was transported to Mt. Carmel East in critical condition. The two passengers in the Kia, Mr. Ronit Newpaney (28) and Mr. Gopi Newpaney (56), both of Pataskala Ohio were transported to Mt. Carmel East and pronounced deceased. Mr. Finnerty was transported to Mt. Carmel East in stable condition. Mrs. Sterkowicz was not injured.

The Fatal Traffic Crash remains under investigation.

There have been a total of 4 Fatal Traffic Crashes in the City of Columbus in 2023.

- Update -

Copy To:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commander	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Information Office
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