

SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT 155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

# **MEDIA RELEASE**



DATE/TIME: July 21, 2018

### LOCATION: Modesto Ave @ Sacramento Ave

# TOPIC: UPDATE Driver Identified & Charged With Vehicular Homicide CASE NUMBER: 18S-05497

#### INFORMATION:

#### Driver Identified and Charged with Murder in Fatal Auto-Pedestrian Crash

**SANTA CRUZ, CA** - The Santa Cruz Police Department continues to investigate a vehicle versus pedestrian collision that left a 23-year-old female dead in the 700 block of Modesto Avenue. The name of the victim is being withheld pending notification of family members.

Yesterday 7/20/18, at approximately 3:25 p.m., a pedestrian was walking westbound on Modesto Avenue when a 1999 black Infiniti SUV, also traveling in a westbound direction, struck the woman in the intersection. The pedestrian victim sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The driver, identified as Kelsey Knoll 24-year-old from Mount Herman, in the fatal auto-pedestrian crash is charged with murder. As the investigation develops, there is potential for additional charges.

SCPD Investigators brought in a CHP drug recognition expert to examine Kelsey Knoll and determine if she was driving the vehicle under the influence. The results of blood and alcohol testing are pending.

The police investigation into the crash remains open and active. It is unknown at this time if alcohol, drugs, or vehicular speed were a factor in the collision.

Detectives are reviewing video surveillance in the area and interviewing additional witnesses. No motive has been established at this time.

The Santa Cruz Police Department asks that anyone with information or who witnessed this collision to contact investigators at 831- 420-5820. Tips can also be left through the means listed below

#### **Photos Attached**

#### For additional information, contact: Joyce Blaschke

Phone: (831) 420-5844

Anonymous tips can also be sent to the police department through our Tip Line (831) 420-5995, or from our Website; <u>www.santacruzpolice.com</u>. Tipsters can also submit an anonymous tip via our smartphone app or from an SMS text. Visit our Website for instructions.

# РНОТО

Kelsey Knoll, 24-year-old from Mount Herman- Case 18S-05497 Driver charged with vehicular homicide in the death of a pedestrian



SCPD on scene at Modesto Avenue & Sacramento Avenue – Case 18S-05497

