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Indictment filed in January 5, 2019 fatal crash in Northeast Portland

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that 82-year-old Roger Edward Dorherty was arraigned on an indictment that charges him with one count of criminally negligent homicide.

According to the indictment, Doherty unlawfully and with criminal negligence caused the death of 34-year-old Rachele Cox.

This investigation started on January 5, 2019 when members of the Portland Police Bureau responded to a vehicle versus pedestrian crash at approximately 3 p.m. near the intersection of Northeast Airport Way near Northeast Mason Street.

Officers and paramedics arrived and found Cox lying on the ground. Emergency medical personnel determined she died on scene.

According to information previously released by the Portland Police Bureau's Traffic Division, a 9-1-1 caller provided information about the vehicle believed to be involved in the crash. Officers located the vehicle and driver near Northeast Airport Way and Northeast Riverside Parkway.

During the preliminary investigation, law enforcement determined Cox was walking on a sidewalk along Northeast Airport Way when the driver, later identified as Dorherty, left the roadway and struck her, according to previously released information.

As part of the investigation, members of the PPB Major Crash Team seized the vehicle involved in the crash as evidence.

On August 14, 2019, a Multnomah County grand jury returned the single count indictment.

At his arraignment, the court ordered that Dorherty be booked into the Multnomah County Detention Center and then released on his own recognizance.

Because this remains an ongoing investigation, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office is unable to release any additional factual details. This case was presented directly to the grand jury and as such, there is no probable cause affidavit.

An indictment is only an accusation of a crime. Dorherty is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

#MCDA#

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