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William Leptich receives 24 month prison sentence for negligently causing the death of Darnell Jolly

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that 64-year-old William Leptich received a 24 month prison sentence after being convicted of criminally negligent homicide for causing the death of Darnell Jolly while driving under the influence of intoxicants.

This investigation started on October 26, 2018, when officers with the Portland Police Bureau received information about a crash near the intersection of Southeast 146th Avenue and Southeast Stark Street in Portland, Oregon.

Jolly suffered life-threatening injuries and died on October 28, 2018.

During the investigation, law enforcement learned that Jolly lived in the neighborhood and was known to walk with a limp and a cane.

On June 24, 2019, Leptich appeared in Multnomah County Circuit Court and changed his plea to one count of criminally negligent homicide and one count of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

By pleading guilty, Leptich admitted that he drove his vehicle on a public roadway in a reckless manner and with criminal negligence, he caused the death of Jolly. He further admitted that while driving, he was under the influence of alcohol.

"There is no reason that someone should operate a vehicle while they are under the influence of intoxicants. It is incredibly risky behavior," said Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Eric Collins, who prosecuted this case. "It's unclear why William Leptich did not see Mr. Jolly crossing the street and why he could not avoid the crash."

During this investigation, law enforcement located a receipt for alcohol that Leptich had purchased and consumed prior to the crash.

Upon his release, Leptich will be on 36 months of post-prison supervision. He will be required to undergo an alcohol evaluation and complete any ordered treatment, pay a \$1,000 fine and attend the DUII Victim Impact Panel.

Leptich's driving privileges were permanently revoked.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office recognizes the patrol officers with the Portland Police Bureau who responded to this crash, the PPB's Traffic Division and the members of the PPB's Major Crash Team for their dedicated efforts investigating this case.

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