



ASHLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Michael W. Brennan

NEWS MEDIA RELEASE

Date: April 17, 2020

Release: Immediate

Authority: Sheriff Michael Brennan

Re: Fatal Crash – **UPDATE-Release #3**

A criminal complaint has been filed by the Ashland County District Attorney's Office for a 16-year-old male alleging one count of First Degree Reckless Homicide in connection with the death of Mahzhaquad Ford on April 15. The juvenile defendant being charged is in custody at this time.

Preliminary findings suggest that during the course of an attempted drug transaction, an altercation ensued between this juvenile and Mr. Ford. Ford became entangled with a vehicle, driven by the juvenile, which departed at a high rate of speed and crashed into a tree.

Mr. Ford was pronounced deceased at the location of the crash by the Ashland County Coroner. A final cause of death determination is pending the result of an autopsy.

No charges have been filed against any other persons of interest at this time.

This incident remains under investigation by the Ashland County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin State Patrol, the Ashland County Coroner's Office and the Wisconsin State Crime Lab.

UPDATE

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