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Man Arraigned for Hit and Run Fatality

ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that IAN ECKARDT-RIGBERG, 19, of Delmar, was arraigned this morning on (1) Count of Manslaughter in the Second Degree, a Class C Felony, (1) Count of Criminally Negligent Homicide, a Class E Felony, (1) Count of Leaving the Scene of an Incident Without Reporting as a Felony, a Class D Felony, (1) Count of Unlawfully Fleeing a Police Officer in a Motor Vehicle in the First Degree, a Class D Felony, (1) Count of Reckless Driving, a Misdemeanor, (1) Count of Reckless Endangerment in the Second Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor, (1) Count of Falsely Reporting an Incident in the Third Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor, (1) Count of Operating a Motor Vehicle in Violation of Restrictions, a Violation, (1) Count of Traffic Control Signal Indications; Red Indications, a Traffic Infraction, before Honorable Judge Thomas Breslin in Albany County Court.

The indictment alleges that on February 25, 2012, at approximately 7:30pm, ECKARDT-RIGBERG was operating a motor vehicle on Interstate 90 in the City of Albany, when he failed to stop his motor vehicle after being directed to do so by a marked police car. During that incident, ECKARDT-RIGBERG is alleged to have driven recklessly, run a red light, and recklessly caused the death of another person. Additionally, after striking the victim with his vehicle, ECKARDT-RIGBERG is alleged to have fled the scene and failed to report the incident. ECKARDT-RIGBERG then drove to the Bethlehem Police Department where he is alleged to have falsely reported being involved in various property damage accidents in the Town of Bethlehem. It is alleged that ECKARDT-RIGBERG was driving a motor vehicle in violation of restrictions on his license at the time.

The Albany Police Department led this investigation.

Bureau Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Unit Assistant District Attorney Mary Tanner-Richter is prosecuting this case.

For more information, please contact Cecilia Logue.

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All charged individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.