



Office of the District Attorney

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Grand Jury Indicts Driver in Voorheesville Triple Fatality



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that an Albany County Grand Jury indicted LuAnn Burgess, 55, of Voorheesville, for her role in the fatal crash that occurred on August 10, 2011. BURGESS was arraigned on a sealed indictment before Judge Dan Lamont this afternoon in Albany Supreme Court.

BURGESS was indicted and arraigned on the following counts: (1) Count of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, a Class B Felony, (1) Count of Vehicular Manslaughter in the First Degree, a Class C Felony, (3) Counts of Criminally Negligent Homicide, all Class E Felonies, (1) Count of Driving While Ability Impaired by the Combined Influence of Drugs, a Misdemeanor, (1) Count of Reckless Driving, an Unclassified Misdemeanor, (1) Count of Driving at an Unreasonable or Imprudent Speed, a Traffic Infraction, and (1) Count of Exceeding the Speed Limit, a Traffic Infraction.

“I would like to thank the Grand Jury for taking the time to thoroughly evaluate this highly complex case and evaluate every detail of the evidence presented to them. Our Vehicular Crimes Unit Bureau Chief Mary Tanner-Richter conducted an exhaustive investigation which left no stone unturned. The Grand Jury’s

decision was the final piece to the nearly yearlong investigation by this Office into one of the most tragic and complex motor vehicle crashes in this County's history. The investigation leading up to this presentation required the cooperation and coordination of multiple agencies, both local and out of state. This was a multipart and exhaustive investigation comprised of countless man hours dedicated to witness interviews, collision investigation and reconstruction analyses, toxicology inquiry and exploration, and a thorough assessment of potential legal matters associated with the presentation of this case to a Grand Jury. This Office appreciates the families' understanding during what can only be considered an extremely trying process and hopes that the Grand Jury's decision today brings them some sense of closure," commented DA Soares.

Vehicular Crimes Unit Bureau Chief Mary Tanner-Richter is handling the prosecution of this case.

For more information, please contact Cecilia Logue.

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All parties are presumed innocent until proven guilty.