



Town of Wallingford, Connecticut
Department of Police Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lieutenant Anthony DeMaio
Traffic Division
January 29, 2020 @ 8:00 PM

Pedestrian Struck by Vehicle on Yale Avenue in Wallingford

The Wallingford Police Department Traffic Division is investigating a one-vehicle versus pedestrian collision that occurred on Yale Avenue at its intersection with Old Yale Avenue in the Town of Wallingford. The incident was reported to Wallingford Police Communications via multiple 911 calls on January 29, 2020 at approximately 3:35 PM.

The investigation, which is ongoing, revealed that the operator of a gray colored 2017 Subaru Forester, identified as Eugene Vegliante Jr., age 66, of Meriden, was traveling westbound on Yale Avenue when the vehicle he was operating struck a pedestrian within the westbound travel lane occupied by the Forester, along a well-traveled, flat and straight portion of the roadway.

The pedestrian, who succumbed to his injuries at the scene, has been identified as Leonard B. James, age 66, of Meriden CT.

The investigation has revealed that prior to the incident Mr. James was traveling eastbound on Yale Avenue in a 2019 GMC Terrain. Mr. James pulled this vehicle off to the right hand side of the roadway and parked. He then exited his vehicle and crossed over to the north side of Yale Avenue where he was seen picking up an object, likely a bottle for redemption, off the ground. Mr. James was then struck by the westbound Forester operated by Vegliante while attempting to cross back over the busy roadway to return to his parked vehicle.

Vehicular traffic was affected as this heavily traveled section of the roadway was closed for several hours to allow the Wallingford Police Department Traffic Division to reconstruct the collision. Anyone who witnessed this collision is encouraged to call Officer James Knowlton at 203-294-2818 or Lt. Anthony DeMaio at 203-294-2838.