



MORRIS COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Administration & Records Bldg.

P.O. Box 900

Morristown, New Jersey 07963-0900

Robert J. Carroll
County Prosecutor

Margaret M. Calderwood
First Assistant Prosecutor

Telephone: 973-285-6200

Fax: 973-285-6226

morriscountynj.gov/prosecutor

prosecutor@co.morris.nj.us

Robert McNally
Chief of Detectives

Morris County Prosecutor Robert Carroll, Chief of Detectives Robert McNally, Morris County Sheriff James Gannon, and Randolph Police Chief Will Harzula announce the conclusion of an investigation into a fatal motor vehicle crash. The incident occurred Thursday, April 10, 2025, on Route 10 in Randolph.

At approximately 3:20 p.m., a 2015 Mercedes Benz driven by Diane Goetz, 71, of Randolph, accelerated suddenly while traveling north on Millbrook Avenue. The Mercedes drifted into the southbound lane, and proceeded through a red traffic signal at 96 mph onto Route 10. The Mercedes struck a 2011 Honda CRV traveling eastbound, and impacted a 2019 Dodge Caravan also traveling westbound. As a result of the impact, a 2020 Toyota Corolla was damaged. The Mercedes came to a rest on the grass on the northwest corner of the intersection.

The Caravan was transporting students from PG Chambers in Cedar Knolls, and was registered to Alyft Transport LLC.

Immediately following the crash, first responders from multiple agencies arrived on the scene and rendered aid.

The driver of the Caravan, Bertha Castaneda, was pronounced dead on scene, and the passenger, Maria Z. Figueroa, was pronounced deceased at a nearby hospital. The driver of the Mercedes, Diane Goetz, was pronounced dead on scene.

Two children injured in this crash were transported to local hospitals for care, and one student, Yexsel Reyes Granados, succumbed to his injuries the following day.

The adult driver of the Honda was transported to an area hospital with minor injuries, and the adult driver of the Toyota was treated at the scene.

Those who lost their lives as a result of this incident:

- Bertha Castaneda, 67, of Dover
- Maria Z. Figueroa, 58, of Wharton
- Yexsel Reyes Granados, 4, of Hackettstown
- Diane Goetz, 71, of Randolph

A thorough and exhaustive investigation conducted by the Morris County Prosecutor's Office Major Crimes Unit, Morris County Sheriff's Office CSI Unit, and the Randolph Police Department concluded the crash was not criminal in nature. Goetz may have suffered an unspecified medical episode while driving on Millbrook Avenue.

Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll said, "This was a heartbreaking day for the Morris County community. It is unthinkable that a collision can result in the loss of four lives, and the suffering of a second child. We appreciate the patience of the community while investigators performed their due diligence. I realize the conclusion may not be satisfactory for everyone, given the significant impact of this incident. However, there is no evidence to suggest criminal intent on the part of the at-fault driver. It can be difficult to make sense of such a tragic accident. Those who continue to mourn their loved ones remain in our prayers."

Morris County Sheriff James Gannon said, "We recognize all the first responders who worked so hard to rescue and treat those involved in this accident, especially responders from the Randolph Police Department, Randolph Fire Department, Dover Fire Department, Denville Police Department, and Morris County Sheriff's Office."

Media inquiries concerning this press release should be directed to mknab@co.morris.nj.us.