

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE _____

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UPDATE

SUFFOLK, VA (July 14, 2011) The second female passenger, Laverne Samala Crowell, age 36, succumbed to her injuries Wednesday evening at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital. Ms. Crowell's last known address was in the 1100 block of 25th Street in Newport News.

The driver of the vehicle, Cornell A. Richardson of Drewryville, has been discharged from Sentara Norfolk General Hospital.

Suffolk, VA (July 9, 2011) – A single vehicle accident has left one dead and two others injured. Suffolk Police stopped a vehicle in the 1500 block of Holland Rd. just before one this morning for a traffic violation. The driver of the vehicle, a 1992 Toyota, initially stopped however as the officer exited his vehicle, the vehicle fled travelling west bound on Holland Rd. The officer broadcast the vehicle description and followed in the direction the vehicle fled.

Officers discovered debris in the roadway in the 6400 block of Holland Road. They found the vehicle that had fled police had left the roadway, struck a guardrail and then a tree. Three people were entrapped in the vehicle. Suffolk Fire and Rescue responded to the scene and worked to free the occupants.

The driver of the vehicle, Cornell A. Richardson of Drewryville, was air lifted to Sentara Norfolk Hospital, where he is currently stable. He was found to have an outstanding felony warrant in Southampton County. A passenger, Keiska Thornhill, age 36, of Franklin, died at the scene. A second female passenger sustained serious injuries and is currently at Sentara Norfolk Hospital. Her name has not been released.

The accident remains under investigation. Officer Sobers is the lead investigator.