



HIGH POINT POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS MEDIA RELEASE

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Chief of Police J. Travis Stroud

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: High Point Police Department
On Duty Watch Commander
336-883-8548 (Media Line)

UPDATE INCIDENT TYPE –HIT AND RUN FATALITY

HIGH POINT, NC – **UPDATE:** The investigation of this crash determined the following information. Four (4) motorcyclists were riding North on N Main Street with two motorcycles leading and two motorcycles following. **Xavier Lee Grooms (W/M 19 years old) of Kernersville, NC** was in the front left position, **Hunter Drake Welch (W/M 19 years old) of Kernersville, NC** was in the front right position, **Thomas Aiden Fauber (W/M 18 years old) of Walnut Cove, NC** was in the back left position, and **Maxwell Montague HoneyCutt (W/M 20 years old) of Walkertown, NC** was in the back right position. As the group traveled up North Main Street, they reached speeds of more than 60mph at times. After going through the intersection of N Main Street and Old Winston Rd the two front motorcyclists (Grooms and Welch) had to quickly slow down due to slower moving traffic ahead of them. When they did this, Fauber was unable to slow down and ran into the back of Grooms. The collision between the two motorcycles caused Fauber to be ejected from his motorcycle and both he and the motorcycle went into the Southbound travel lanes. As Honeycutt witnessed the collision occurring in front of him, he swerved to the left to avoid it and went into the Southbound travel lanes as well. When Honeycutt entered the Southbound lanes, he struck Fauber with his motorcycle. This collision caused Honeycutt to lose control of his motorcycle and he was ejected as well.

After the collision took place, and prior to law enforcement arriving, Honeycutt fled the scene in an unknown vehicle and Welch hid the motorcycle that Honeycutt was riding behind a local business. When law enforcement arrived and began the investigation, Grooms and Welch remained on scene while Fauber was taken to the hospital for his injuries. Grooms and Welch provided fictitious information about the chain of events that took place and the identity of the fourth rider, who was later identified as Honeycutt. Several hours into the investigation Honeycutt was located at his residence and the motorcycle he was riding was located behind a local business. The motorcycle had been reported stolen out of Hoke County, NC almost a year prior to this crash.



Crime Stoppers of High Point pays cash rewards for information that leads to arrests, seizures or solving serious crimes. Callers with successful tips remain anonymous and receive rewards up to \$5,000. Contact Crime Stoppers at 336-889-4000 or Download the P3 Tips mobile app for IOS or Android



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At the conclusion of this investigation the follow charges were obtained:



Maxwell Honeycutt (Booking Photo)

- Felony hit and run
- Felony possession of stolen motor vehicle
- Operating a motorcycle with no motorcycle endorsement
- Careless and reckless driving
- Speeding more than 15mph above the posted speed limit



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Hunter Welch (Booking Photo)

- Aid and abet felony hit and run
- Felony possession of stolen motor vehicle
- Resist/obstruct/delay an investigation
- Careless and reckless driving
- Speeding more than 15mph above the posted speed limit



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Xavier Grooms (Booking Photo)

- Aid and abet felony hit and run
- Resist/obstruct/delay an investigation
- Careless and reckless driving
- Speeding more than 15mph above the posted speed limit
- Operating a vehicle with an expired registration

INCIDENT TYPE –HIT AND RUN FATALITY

On 09/26/2023, at 10:15 p.m. High Point Police, High Point Fire Department, and Guilford County EMS were dispatched to the 2400blk of N Main Street for a traffic crash with injuries involving multiple motorcycles. When units arrived on scene it was determined that one of the



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motorcycle riders, **Thomas Aiden Fauber w/m (18 years old) of Walnut Cove, NC** suffered life-threatening injuries during the crash. Mr. Fauber was transported to a local hospital to be treated for his injuries. On 09/28/2023 investigators were informed that Mr. Fauber died because of the injuries received during this crash.

The High Point Police Department's Traffic Unit was called in to complete the investigation. The investigation is still ongoing and no further information will be released at this time. Speed and rider inexperience are contributing factors in this crash. No impairment was suspected.

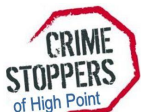
This is the seventh traffic fatality for the City of High Point in 2023.

The High Point Police Department remains committed to crime-fighting, community engagement, training, and professional policing. We will continue to collaborate with our community members and crime-fighting partners to promote a higher quality of life. Anyone with information about violent crime or illegal activity is asked to contact Crime Stoppers of High Point at 336-889-4000 or Download the P3 mobile app for IOS or Android.

Case Report Number(s): 2023-33937

Press Release prepared by: Lt. JS Crouse

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