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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DA ANNOUNCES JOINT INVESTIGATION INTO ONE-CAR CRASH IN CHELTENHAM THAT KILLED A 20-YEAR-OLD PASSENGER

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Jan. 24, 2022) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Cheltenham Township Acting Police Chief John Slavin announce a joint investigation into a one-car crash that killed 20-year-old Nicholas Bednarek of Abington.

Cheltenham Police responded to the one-car crash on Greenwood Avenue at 1:34 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 23, 2022. They arrived to find all five occupants, ages 17 to 20, seriously injured. All of the car's occupants were transported to area hospitals, including one flown to Penn-Presbyterian Hospital. Bednarek was pronounced deceased later that morning at Abington Memorial Hospital.

The initial investigation of the crash found that the 2006 Honda was driven by an 18-year-old male. The vehicle was traveling on Greenwood Avenue, crossed a bridge and then went around a curve. The Honda left the right side of the roadway, sideswiped a guardrail, then struck two side-by-side utility poles. The impact broke both poles in multiple parts. The Honda came to a rest in the middle of Greenwood Avenue. Arriving officers found open containers of alcohol in the car.

An autopsy was performed this morning on Bednarek's body by Dr. Kahlil Wardak of the Montgomery County Coroner's Office. The cause of death was multiple blunt impact injuries.

"This is every parent's worst nightmare, and our hearts go out to Nicholas's family and the other families. We pray for a full recovery of all of the young people," said DA Steele. "These crash investigations, especially one involving a death, take time, and we are in the early stages of the investigation."

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele