



## ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING  
420 West State Street  
Rockford, Illinois 61101-1288  
815-966-2900

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CHET EPPERSON  
CHIEF OF POLICE

# TRAFFIC RELEASE

**DATE & TIME**      **12/15/13 4:09 PM**

**Bureau:**              **Field Services Bureau**

**Authorized Supervisor:**    **Lieutenant Patrick Hoey**

**Phone:**                **815-987-5744**

**Incident:**              **Fatal Traffic Crash-2600 Ridge Av-Arrest**

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### MESSAGE

At 4:07 am on Sunday, December 15, 2013 Rockford Police and Fire Departments were sent to the 2600 block of Ridge Avenue for a single vehicle traffic crash. Upon arrival a male and female were located inside a Volkswagon passenger car, which had left the roadway and struck a tree.

The male driver and female passenger were transported by Rockford Fire Department ambulances to a local hospital. The passenger, 30 year old Rockford resident Ashley Charles was pronounced dead due to her injuries.

The male driver was treated and released and transported to the Public Safety Building.

The investigation was conducted by the Rockford Police Traffic Unit and was reviewed with the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office and the following charges were authorized:

**Charged:**

Dawon C. Keenan, male black, date of birth 01/07/89, Rockford resident

**Charges:**

Reckless Homicide

Aggravated Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol involving death

Driving Under the Influence BAC Over .0:8

Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid an Accident

Driving While License Suspended

The charges against Keenan are allegations and he is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

A photo of Keenan is attached.

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