



Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
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## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Douglas Pann**  
**Assistant Deputy Chief**

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**DATE : February 5, 2016**

**Phone: 779-500-6635**

### *ARREST RELEASE*

\*\*\*Updated Press Release\*\*\*

Shortly after 2:30 a.m. on February 3, 2016 an IL. State Police District 15 Trooper, attempted to stop a Blue 2005 Mazda 3 in Loves Park on Mulford Road. The vehicle fled and the plate returned as a stolen auto out of Rockford. The Trooper last observed the vehicle on Mulford near Riverside but did not pursue the stolen vehicle.

Officers from the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department and Loves Park Police were assisting in the search of the stolen vehicle. Shortly after 2:45 a.m., a Winnebago County deputy located the stolen vehicle crashed on Spring Creek Road just east of Highcrest Road. The deputy identified the driver as 26-year-old Michael Traver of Rockford. The front passenger was pinned in the vehicle and Rockford Fire arrived on scene to conduct extrication. The front passenger, later identified as Juan S. Lozano, a 22-year-old Rockford resident, was transported to a local hospital where he died from injuries he sustained in the crash. Traver and the backseat passenger, a 17-year-old female Rockford resident, sustained serious but non-life threatening injuries and are being treated at a local hospital. Charges on the driver are pending and the accident is still presently under investigation by the Rockford Police Department. There is evidence that this accident is alcohol related.

\*\*\*Update\*\*\*

After reviewing the investigation with the Winnebago County States Attorney Office, they authorized the following charges against the following suspect:



Michael Traver:

1. Unlawful Possession of a Stolen Vehicle
2. Aggravated Driving Under Influence Liquor
3. No Driver's License
4. Aggravated Fleeing to Elude Police Officer
5. Traffic Speeding
6. Failure to Reduce Speed / Too Fast for Conditions

Traver was lodged in the Winnebago County Jail in the late evening of February 4, 2016. The defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.



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