

## **Statement on Fatal Hit and Run on Tonnelle Avenue in North Bergen**

NORTH BERGEN, NJ - At approximately 12:06 am on Sunday October 2nd, the North Bergen Police and the Hudson County Sheriff's Office Crash Investigation Unit responded to the 1400 block of Tonnelle Avenue on a report of a pedestrian struck.

Arriving North Bergen Police Officers found a man lying in the driveway of the Seville Motel, badly injured and unconscious. North Bergen EMS arrived and were able to resuscitate the victim. He was then transported to the Jersey City Medical Center where he remained in critical condition until 6:31 pm, when he died as a result of his injuries.

The victim is identified as Ruperto Chavarria Palma, 27 years old, of Maryland.

Mr. Palma appeared to be crossing the highway when he was struck by a vehicle traveling South on Tonnelle Avenue at the 14th Street intersection. The vehicle that struck Mr. Chavarria Palma did not stop and fled the scene. Crash Investigators analyzed parts of the vehicle found at the scene and also reviewed surveillance video from nearby businesses and determined that a large black SUV, possibly a 2005-2007 Toyota Sequoia may have been the striking vehicle.

Anyone that has information regarding this fatal hit and run accident is asked to please contact The North Bergen Police at 201-392-2100 or the Hudson County Sheriff's Office Crash Investigation Unit at 201-915-1300 , all calls will be kept confidential.