

## **Hudson County Sheriff Frank X. Schillari On Critical Accident near 70th Street and Kennedy Boulevard in Guttenberg**

JERSEY CITY - Statement from Hudson County Sheriff Frank X. Schillari on critical accident on 70th Street and Kennedy Blvd., in Guttenberg last night.

“At approximately 2:15 AM units from the Hudson County Sheriff’s Office and the Guttenberg Police Department responded to the report of a pedestrian struck at Kennedy Boulevard and 70th Street. Arriving responders found a woman lying unconscious and critically injured on the northbound lanes of Kennedy Boulevard, just North of 70th Street.

The victim, who has been identified as Ana Hernandez, 31, of 37th Street in Union City, was transported by North Bergen EMS to the Jersey City Medical Center, where she had to undergo emergency surgery, she is currently listed in critical condition.

Crash Investigators from the Sheriff’s Office have determined that the victim was crossing Kennedy Boulevard, from East to West, and was not in a crosswalk, when she was struck by a 2010 Mercedes-Benz that was travelling northbound on Kennedy Blvd, driven by Alexander Rojas, 44, of North Bergen.

Mr. Rojas remained at the scene, he was administered a field sobriety check, which he passed and is cooperating with authorities. The crash remains under investigation and Investigators are analyzing video footage from the area and are interviewing witnesses.

In light of the number of pedestrian strikes across Hudson County I would like to remind drivers and pedestrians to be mindful of their surroundings and to follow all speed limits and crossing signals to reduce the chances of being involved in an accident. As an additional reminder tomorrow, October 10th “National Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day” a countywide law enforcement campaign to bring attention to traffic safety and for drivers and pedestrians to be alert when walking and driving alike.

As an additional reminder the Hudson County Sheriff’s Office has initiated a Pedestrian Safety Plan, "Be Aware Before You Cross" countywide, thanks to a Federal Grant. The plan is a combination of enforcement and educational seminars. The enforcement aspect will target: jaywalking, crossing against a light and vehicles that fail to yield to pedestrians. On the educational end, I came up with a list of safety tips for pedestrians to help reduce their chances of being hit by a car, we have also distribute brochures, given seminars and distributed reflective armbands to pedestrians.”

Hudson County Sheriff Frank X. Schillari.