

# MOUNT OLIVE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT



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## News Release

[Stephen Beecher](#), Chief of Police

[Capt. Michael T. Spitzer](#), Operations Commander

[Lt. Craig Austenberg](#), Support Services Division

[Lt. Philip J. Lucivero](#), Patrol Division

[Lt. Michael Cordileone](#), Communications & Records Division

[Lt. Luis Sanchez](#), Investigations Division

[Cpl. Marianne Wurtemberg](#), Public Information Officer

[Sgt. Carl Mase](#), Alternate PIO

Approval: <b>067</b>
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<p>The following has been authorized for immediate release to the public. Any requests for additional information should be made to the Public Information Officer or a Staff Officer.</p>
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<p>Members of the news media are asked to respect the privacy of crime victims.</p>
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\*\*\* See narratives for further information \*\*\*

**Key:** (A) Arrested (V) Victim (W) Witness (O) Other (D) Driver (JM) Juvenile Male (JF) Juvenile Female (ROR) Released on Own Recognizance (ROB) Released on Bail (RTP) Released to Parent (HRMC) Hackettstown Regional Medical Center (SCH) St. Clare's Hosp. (MMC) Morristown Medical Center (MCCF) Morris Co. Correctional Facility (MCJDC) Morris Co. Juv. Detention Center

<b>Incident/Event:</b>	Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash
<b>Date:</b>	November 28th
<b>Location:</b>	Bartley Road, Flanders NJ
<b>Investigated by:</b>	Officer Kevin Barrier
<b>Involved:</b>	(Driver) Yvonne Riporti-Lombardo, Budd Lake NJ, 62, F (Driver) Melissa Benbrook, Long Valley NJ, 36, F

On November 28, 2017 at 6:24 am, the Mount Olive Police Communications Center received multiple 9-1-1 calls of a motor vehicle crash with injuries on Bartley Road at the intersection with River Road in the Flanders section of town. Upon arrival of the first police units, it was determined that the driver of one of the involved vehicles had suffered significant injuries as a result of the crash. The crash investigation determined that Ms. Yvonne Riporti-Lombardo, who was operating a 2006 Honda Civic, failed to stop at the stop sign on River Road at the intersection with Bartley Road. Ms. Riporti-Lombardo's vehicle crossed into the lane of travel of a 2015 Ford Explorer, that was traveling south on Bartley Road, being operated by Ms. Melissa Benbrook. The Ford Explorer impacted the driver's side of the vehicle that entered her lane of travel. As a result of the crash, Ms. Riporti-Lombardo's vehicle rotated after the initial impact until coming to final rest in the opposite lane of travel.

A passenger in Ms. Riporti-Lombardo's vehicle and Ms. Benbrook were both transported to Hackettstown Medical Center for treatment pertaining to the crash, however did not suffer significant medical injuries as a result of the crash. Ms. Riporti-Lombardo was also transported to Hackettstown Medical Center where she died as a result of the injuries she sustained in the crash. The Mount Olive Police Department was assisted with the crash investigation by members from the Morris County Prosecutors Office, Vehicular Homicide Unit and members of the Morris County Sheriff's Office, Criminal Investigative Section. The Flanders Fire & First Aid Squad, along with Atlantic Ambulance assisted with medical treatment and transportation to local hospitals. The roadway was detoured for approximately 3 hours as the crash was investigated.

**Police Headquarters** 204 Flanders Drakestown Road, Budd Lake, New Jersey 07828  
(973) 691-0850 (973) 691-8312 Fax