



COUNTY OF FRESNO

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2020

Fresno County District Attorney's Office Files Gross Vehicular Manslaughter Charges Against Roger Lynn Harris for Driving While Intoxicated and Killing Man in Head-On Collision

Today, April 27, 2020, Roger Lynn Harris (33, of Fresno) was charged in a felony complaint with the crimes of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, driving under the influence, evading causing death, hit and run causing death, and violent felon in possession of a firearm. The charges are related to the April 23, 2020 death of a forty-eight-year-old driver near the intersection of Cedar and Olive in the City of Fresno.

It is alleged that on April 23, 2020, at around 3:30 p.m., Harris fled from police following a traffic stop and veered into oncoming traffic, striking and killing another motorist. Officers from the Fresno Police Department located a loaded 9mm handgun inside of the defendant's vehicle, as well as a loaded magazine for the handgun.

The complaint alleges that Harris committed the crimes of:

1. Gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated [PC 191.5(a)];
2. Driving under the influence of a drug causing injury [VC 23153(f)];
3. Evading causing death [VC 2800.3(b)];
4. Evading an officer by going opposite traffic [VC 2800.4];
5. Hit and run causing death [VC 20001(b)(2)];
6. Assault with a deadly weapon [PC 245(a)(1)];
7. Violent felon in possession of a firearm [PC 29900];
8. Illegal carrying of a concealed weapon [PC 25400];
9. Illegal carrying of a loaded weapon in public [PC 25850]; and
10. Felon in possession of ammunition [PC 30305]

It is further alleged that Harris has two prior convictions for strike offenses for robberies that occurred in 2004 and 2006.

If convicted of all charges and allegations, Harris faces a sentence of up to 51 years to life in state prison.

Harris was arrested on April 23, 2020 by Fresno Police Department officers. Harris remains in custody and his arraignment is scheduled for April 28, 2020.

The media may email FCDAMedia@fresnocountyca.gov with any questions.

[2020-11457]