




Charges dropped against driver in deadly head-on collision

St Mary's County · 10/11/2017 · By Joy Shrum

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Update 10/10/17

Leonardtown, MD- Charges have been dropped against Kellie Lynn Murphy, 21 of Mechanicsville, who was charged in connection with a fatal head-on collision in May of 2016.

Murphy was charged with negligent manslaughter-auto/boat/other and criminal negligent manslaughter vehicle/vessel for the death of her passenger, Bryce Hurry, 20 of Chaptico.

Murphy was scheduled to go on trial Tuesday, Oct.10 but the charges were Nolle Prosequi.

Murphy's attorney, Kevin J. McDevitt issued this statement to TheBayNet.com:

“Kellie Murphy is happy the State’s Attorney’s Office has elected to drop the criminal charges. She was facing a felony charge and a potential maximum sentence of decades in prison. She will pay a civil citation and avoid having to even go to court. Bryce Hurry caused this accident by jerking the wheel into oncoming traffic. The St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office Collision Expert’s opinion that the primary cause of the accident was passenger interference, the forensic evidence collected from the event data recorders, and eyewitness statements are what garnered such a successful result. Kellie Murphy would like to thank Expert Dave Rineholt of Collision Technologies in Cambridge, MD, Private Investigator Jamie Spaulding and Cpl. Brandon Foor of the St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office Collision Reconstruction Unit for their work on this case. Kellie hopes to spread awareness of the dangers of passenger conduct in vehicles. Her thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Bryce Hurry.”

TheBayNet.com has reached out to the State's Attorney's office for comment but as of the update of this article we have not yet heard back.

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Mechanicsville, MD - On May 30, 2016, at approximately 2:22 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office was dispatched to a serious motor vehicle collision on Mechanicsville Road in the area of Gander Court. Units arrived on scene to find two vehicles involved in a head-on style collision. Due to the severity of injuries, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit was requested.

A preliminary investigation determined a 2013 Hyundai Accent, operated by Kellie Murphy, age 19, of Mechanicsville, was traveling northbound on

Mechanicsville Road, when for unknown reasons the vehicle crossed the center line and struck a 2010 Toyota Sienna, operated by Joseph Thomas, age 72, of Mechanicsville. The Hyundai was occupied by two other passengers, Bryce Hurry, age 20, of Chaptico and Jeffrey Townsend, age 18, of Mechanicsville. The Toyota was occupied by one passenger, Ann Thomas, age 68, of Mechanicsville. At this time, it is believed the primary cause of the collision is interference from a passenger in the Hyundai.

Both operators and all passengers were transported to area hospitals for treatment. Bryce Hurry remains in critical condition.

Anyone with information regarding this collision is asked to contact Corporal Brandon Foor at 301-475-4040.

[Original Story with PHOTO \(http://www.thebaynet.com/articles/0516/headonmotorvehiclecollisionreported.html\)](http://www.thebaynet.com/articles/0516/headonmotorvehiclecollisionreported.html)