

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
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District Attorney



DA 09-259

RELEASE NUMBER

September 11, 2014

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

September 11, 2014

Re: *The People of the State of California v. Kimberly Ann Kreis*

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today the filing of the following charges against Kimberly Ann Kreis of Santa Barbara: Felony possession of a controlled substance, misdemeanor use or being under the influence of a controlled substance, misdemeanor possession of an instrument for the injection or smoking of a controlled substance, and misdemeanor driving while under the combined influence of any alcoholic beverage and drug. These charges stem from an incident that occurred on April 21, 2014.

At approximately 12:45 a.m., 20-year old Erik Hoel August from Los Angeles was driving a 2005 Mazda 6 southbound on US 101 in the area of Bath Street in Santa Barbara. Passengers in the August vehicle at the time were 17-year old Danielle Murillo, 20-year old Brian Adonay Lopez, and 17-year old Jessica Lee Leffew. Mr. August apparently fell asleep at the wheel and his vehicle proceeded to veer off onto the right shoulder, up against and then on top of the guard rail, where it slid along the top of the guard rail, before eventually turning onto its left side and then onto the roof of the vehicle. The vehicle ended up back in the southbound lanes of US 101 on its roof.

Also driving southbound on US 101 at about this time was Ms. Kreis. Within seconds of the August vehicle ending up on its roof in the southbound lanes of US 101, Ms. Kreis collided into the August vehicle while driving her 2013 Ford Mustang. Mr. August survived the impact, but Ms. Murillo, Mr. Lopez, and Ms. Leffew were subsequently pronounced dead at the scene.

Although Ms. Kreis was arrested that morning for felony Gross Vehicular Manslaughter while intoxicated and felony Causing Bodily Injury while driving intoxicated, a lengthy and thorough investigation by the CHP resulted in the filing of the above-referenced charges.

Ms. Kreis will appear in court for her arraignment on October 2, 2014.

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