Phoenix Police Department

Public Affairs Bureau

620 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

M E D I A   A D V I S O R Y

Date/Time: November 2, 2021, 6:18 p.m.
Incident: 2021-1708682
Incident: 1800 North 52nd Street
Victim: Michael Blanton, 59 years old, deceased
Driver: 35-year-old male, serious injuries

Fatal Traffic Collision Investigation

On November 2, 2021, at about 6:18 p.m., Phoenix Police received a call regarding a collision in the area of 52nd Street and McDowell Road.

Officers learned that a United States Postal Services vehicle was pulled over to the side of the road facing south next to a mailbox when it was struck from behind by a box truck that was traveling south. The U.S.P.S. vehicle then caught fire. The driver of the box truck was transported to the hospital with serious injuries. The driver of the U.S.P.S. vehicle was pronounced deceased on scene.

Preliminary information indicates there were no obvious signs of impairment for either involved party.