



# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP POLICE

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## MEDIA RELEASE

<b>Date of Incident:</b>	2-13-10	<b>Incident #</b>	10-6136
<b>Time of Incident</b>	1007 hours	<b>Incident Type</b>	Motor vehicle crash – fatal
<b>Incident Location</b>	425 Hurffville-Cross Keys Road (Point Plaza parking lot)		
<b>Investigating Officer(s)</b>	Officer Lisa Frattali; Officer Preston Forchion		
<b>Other Involved Agencies</b>	Washington Township Ambulance		
<b>Media Release Approved By</b>	Deputy Chief John Dalesandro		

### Incident Narrative

On February 13<sup>th</sup> at approximately 10:07 a.m. a private contractor (Greentree Nursery and Landscaping) was in the process of removing snow from the parking lot of the Point Plaza shopping center located at 425 Hurffville-Cross Keys Road. Snow had begun to fall from the roof top of the building and was landing in the parking lot area where pedestrians and vehicles were located. While the driver operating the snow plow was navigating the parking lot, two pedestrians exited the United States Postal Store located at one end of the complex. The pedestrians began to cross the parking lot into the direction of their parked car and walked into the path of the snow plow vehicle. The driver of the snow plow was backing up, but his view was partially obstructed to the rear of the vehicle due to a truck mounted salt spreader. Once driver of the plow vehicle realized the pedestrians were directly behind his vehicle, he stopped, but the truck had already impacted one of the two pedestrians, Ethel Schwartz. Mrs. Schwartz fell to the asphalt surface due to the impact and struck her head.

Mrs. Schwartz was transported to the Cooper Hospital Trauma Center in Camden, where she received treatment until she was pronounced deceased on 2-15-10.

The driver of the snow plow truck was issued two motor vehicle summons shortly after the crash investigation took place on 2-13-10. The crash will remain under investigation now that the injuries have resulted in a fatality.

Any additional requests for information should be forwarded to the Public Information Officer, Deputy Chief Dalesandro.

### Subject 1

<b>Name</b>	Robert Couce	<b>Age</b>	48
<b>Address</b>	Lakeshore Drive, Glassboro, New Jersey		
<b>Vehicle (if applicable)</b>	2005 Ford truck		
<b>Injuries (if applicable)</b>	N/A		
<b>Charges</b>	Careless driving, View Obstruction	<b>Arrest (Yes/No)</b>	No

### Subject 2

<b>Name</b>	Ethel Schwartz	<b>Age</b>	75
<b>Address</b>	Tilford Road, Somerdale, New Jersey		
<b>Vehicle (if applicable)</b>	N/A		
<b>Injuries (if applicable)</b>	Head trauma		
<b>Charges</b>	N/A	<b>Arrest (Yes/No)</b>	-