



Phoenix Police Department
Public Affairs Bureau
100 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



MEDIA ADVISORY

Date/Time: June 9, 2026, at about 11:44 a.m.
Incident: 2026-792853
Location: 2700 West Indian School Road
Victim: Richard Alejo Lovato, 60-year-old, deceased
Victim: Adult male, hospitalized
Victim: Adult male, hospitalized
Suspect: Lee Arthur Simmons Jr, 48-years-old, booked G260749

Fatal Collison

Around 11:44 a.m., officers responded to the area of 27th Avenue and Indian School Road regarding a multi-vehicle collision. When officers arrived, they located the adult male driver of one of the vehicles, later identified as 60-year-old Richard Alejo Lovato, in critical condition. The Phoenix Fire Department arrived on the scene and transported him to a nearby hospital, where he was later pronounced deceased. Another adult from one of the vehicles was transported to the hospital as a precaution. An adult male who was crossing Indian School Road was struck by one of the vehicles and/or debris, and he was also transported with a serious but non-life-threatening injury. The driver of the primary vehicle involved was detained on scene by officers on suspicion of impairment.

Detectives from the Vehicular Crimes Unit responded to assume and process the scene. Preliminary information indicates Simmons was eastbound on Indian School Road approaching the red light at 27th Avenue when he failed to stop, and he collided with two vehicles that were stopped at the red light. The impact pushed those vehicles into the intersection, where they collided with additional vehicles traveling southbound. Simmons was transported to the precinct, where he was processed for DUI and booked on numerous charges related to this investigation. Additional details related to this incident remain a part of the ongoing investigation.

Drivers are reminded to **slow down, obey traffic signals, and stay focused** on the road. Being alert for pedestrians and other roadway users can help prevent collisions and keep everyone in our community safe. If you're involved in a collision, stop, **remain at the scene, and call 911**

Sergeant Lorraine Fernandez
Public Affairs Bureau