



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



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# MEDIA ADVISORY

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**Date/Time:** November 22, 2025, at about 1:37 a.m.  
**Incident:** 2025-1685098  
**Location:** 7600 South Central Avenue  
**Victim:** Jessica Monique Hernandez, 35-years-old, deceased  
**Victim:** Lakeisha Hawkins, 42-years-old, deceased  
**Suspect:** Kevin Escarcega Esparza, 28-years-old, deceased

**UPDATE: March 9, 2026**

The victim's in this case have been identified as Jessica Monique Hernandez and Lakeisha Hawkins. The suspect in this case died from his injuries on February 1, 2026 and has been identified as Kevin Escarcega Esparza.

*Sergeant Lorraine Fernandez*  
*Public Affairs Bureau*

## **Early Morning Crash Ends with Two Victims Dead**

(November 22, 2025) Officers witnessed the suspect car drive past at a high rate of speed while stopped off Central Avenue just south of Baseline Road. The suspect vehicle ran a red light striking a vehicle causing both cars to catch fire. Two victims in the second car died on scene and the suspect was taken to the hospital in critical condition.

In the early morning hours of November 22, 2025, a two-man patrol unit was stopped in the neighborhood just south of Baseline Road off Central Avenue when they saw a passenger car drive north at a high rate of speed. As the officers pulled onto Central Avenue to go north, they observed a large fire near the intersection of Baseline Road and Central Avenue. The officers drove to the scene and observed two vehicles crashed into the light rail platform engulfed in flames. Phoenix Fire responded to the scene and were able to extinguish the fire. The suspect, driving the speeding vehicle, was extracted and taken to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. Two individuals in the other car were not able to overcome their injuries and died on scene.

Detectives responded to the scene and took over the investigation. It was learned that the suspect vehicle failed to stop for a red light going north and had struck a passenger car that was driving west through the intersection on a green light. The suspect did show signs of impairment.

*Sergeant Brian Bower*  
*Public Affairs Bureau*