



Maricopa County Attorney

ANDREW P. THOMAS

301 W. JEFFERSON, SUITE 800
PHOENIX, AZ 85003
www.maricopacountyattorney.org

PH. (602) 506-3411
TDD (602) 506-4352
FAX (602) 506-8102

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15, 2010

For more information contact:

Mike Anthony Scerbo, Public Information Officer
(602) 506-3170 (office) or (602) 489-6913 (cell)

Murder Charge Filed Against Man Accused of Causing Fatal Wreck While Fleeing Police

Grand Jury hands up indictment

County Attorney Andrew Thomas announced today that Berry Williams (2/23/62) has been indicted in connection with a fatal crash that happened February 1, 2010.

According to the probable cause statement filed by Phoenix Police, Williams fled police after allegedly stealing beer from a convenience store. The probable cause statement states that Williams continued to flee even after marked patrol cars ended the pursuit. Police allege Williams ran a stop light at 19th Ave. and Baseline and crashed into a car, killing 27-year-old Abel Abebe.

On February 11, 2009 a grand jury indicted Berry on the following charges:

First Degree Murder, a class 1 dangerous felony

Second Degree Murder, a class 1 dangerous felony

Unlawful Flight from a Law Enforcement Vehicle, a class 5 felony

Endangerment, a class 6 dangerous felony

Unlawful Imprisonment, a class 6 felony

Shoplifting, a class 1 misdemeanor

Deputy County Attorney Charity Collins is prosecuting the case.

Thomas stated, "Those who flee police put the entire community in danger. The defendant's actions as alleged by police needlessly claimed the life of a college student."

###