



Michael W. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

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*Pending charges represent accusations:
all defendants are presumed innocent unless
and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable
doubt under the United States Constitution.*

06/23/2025 - James N. Blanchard, 21, of Franklin, has been charged with an additional count of motor vehicle homicide while driving negligently under the influence of alcohol related to the fatal collision on Grove Street in Franklin last month, Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey said.

Blanchard is expected to be arraigned on the new charge Tuesday in Wrentham District Court.

Blanchard is the driver of a pickup truck that collided on May 24 with a car, resulting in the death of a 5-year-old passenger in the car and serious injuries to other occupants.

The new charge is related to the death of Minaben Patel, 38, of Franklin, a passenger in the car who succumbed to her injuries later at an area hospital.

Blanchard was arraigned previously on May 27 on motor vehicle homicide while driving negligently under the influence of alcohol and other charges related to the crash.

He was ordered held in jail on \$250,000 cash bail.