

Cop released after fatal crash

by UPI

CHICAGO -- A Chicago police detective released on \$500,000 bail is charged with driving drunk in a fatal crash that killed two men, say Cook County prosecutors.

Prosecutors allege Joseph Frugoli had a blood-alcohol content three times the legal limit when he crashed his Lexus sport utility vehicle into a disabled Dodge Intrepid on the Dan Ryan Expressway, the Chicago Tribune reported Monday.

Friday's crash killed Andrew Cazares, 23, and Fausto Manzera, 21, who were waiting for road assistance, said prosecutor John Dillon.

Witnesses told police the impact propelled the Dodge forward as if it "had been shot from a cannon" and then explode like "a bomb went off," Dillon said.

Frugoli, 41, an 18-year veteran of the Chicago force, was charged with reckless homicide, aggravated DUI and leaving the scene of a fatal crash, the Chicago Sun-Times reported Monday.

Defense lawyer Gregg Smith said Frugoli was "disoriented" and did not try to flee the scene, the Tribune reported.

An estimated 70 friends and relatives of the victims gathered Sunday outside the courthouse to protest Frugoli's release, some yelling "pigs" and "cowards."

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