WALLINGFORD
POLICE DEPARTMENT

News Release

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For Immediate Release

CAUTION: THIS INFORMATION IS NOT ENTIRELY INCLUSIVE OF RECENT EVENTS OR ARRESTS. USE OF THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE AT YOUR DISCRETION. SOME NAMES, DETAILS, AND ADDRESSES MAY NOT BE ACCURATE AT THE TIME OF THIS RELEASE.

On Monday, March 30, 2026, at approximately 1:50 AM, the Wallingford Police Department Communications Center received a call about a single-car crash on the 400 block of South Elm Street. The initial report indicated that the vehicle had rolled over.

The first patrol officer to arrive found a vehicle with three people trapped inside, and it was starting to catch fire. Several bystanders, including an off-duty police officer, helped to try to control the fire and assist in extricating the occupants. The officer used a fire extinguisher to put out the flames, and a neighbor used a hose from their home to help contain the fire. The officer broke a window to rescue the three trapped occupants before the vehicle was fully engulfed.

Multiple ambulances responded, and all three occupants were transported to hospitals for treatment. Because of the seriousness of the crash, the South-Central Connecticut Regional Traffic Unit, which includes accident investigators from Branford, East Haven, Madison, North Branford, Guilford, North Haven, and Wallingford, was called to take over the investigation.

Police Chief John Ventura would like to extend his personal gratitude to the community members who acted quickly to save these individuals. Their heroic efforts undoubtedly saved three lives.

This case is still under investigation. Anyone with information is urged to contact the Wallingford Police Department at (203) 294-2800 or visit https://www.police.wallingfordct.gov.ct.gov.