



## COUNTY OF FRESNO

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### NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Narayana Zerr Charged in Connection with Father's Day Crash that Killed Father

Narayana Haridasa Zerr (35, of Parlier) has been charged in a felony complaint with crimes including gross vehicular manslaughter while impaired, driving under the influence of alcohol causing great bodily injury, and driving on the wrong side of the road causing injury. The charges are related to a vehicle crash which occurred on Ashlan Avenue in the area of North Sunnyside Avenue during the evening hours of Father's Day on June 19, 2022.

It is alleged that during that crash, Zerr was driving eastbound on Ashlan and drove across a center turn lane and into oncoming traffic, colliding with Ashton McKiernan (41, of Madera) and his family who were traveling westbound. McKiernan was pronounced deceased on scene. Also, in McKiernan's vehicle were his wife, two-year-old child, and five-month-old child. All three were transported to area hospitals for medical treatment.

Following an investigation by the California Highway Patrol, Zerr was found to be under the influence at the time of the collision.

The complaint alleges that Zerr committed the crimes of:

1. Gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated [PC 191.5(a)];
2. Driving with a blood alcohol concentration in excess of .08% causing great bodily injury [VC 23152(b)/PC 12022.7(a)/PC 12022.7(d)];
3. Driving under the influence of alcohol causing great bodily injury [VC 23153(a)/PC 12022.7(a)/12022.7(d)]; and,
4. Driving on the wrong side of the road causing injury [VC 21651(c)/12022.7(a)/12022.7(d)].

If convicted of the charges and allegations, the Zerr faces a sentence of up to 16 years in state prison.

Zerr was arrested in the evening hours of June 19, 2022, by officers of the California Highway Patrol. Zerr remains in custody and is scheduled to be arraigned on June 22, 2022, in Department 33 at the Fresno Superior Court.

The case is currently being prosecuted by the Alcohol and Drug Impaired Driver Vertical Prosecution Program. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

[22-15446 DUI]