

District Attorney's Office
State of North Carolina
26th Prosecutorial District
Mecklenburg County

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NEWS RELEASE

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Man pleads guilty in impaired driving crash that killed man and paralyzed teen

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Just as prosecutors were set to begin the trial of Dang Ngo, he pled guilty to all charges associated with the crash that killed a 21-year-old man and paralyzed a 15-year-old girl. The Honorable Louis A. Trosch, Jr., Superior Court Judge, was presiding in courtroom 5370.

When the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Homicide Team called Ngo, 42, for trial on April 10, 2023, he pled guilty as charged to 1) second-degree murder, 2) felony death by vehicle, 3) two counts of felony serious injury by vehicle, and 4) reckless driving. After the surviving victims addressed the court, Judge Trosch sentenced Ngo to 150-192 months in prison.

In August 2019, Ngo was speeding on East Independence Boulevard in Charlotte. Just before the crash, he was driving his BMW M5 at 128 mph in a 45 mph zone. He was still traveling at 103 mph when he slammed into the back of a Toyota Camry occupied by five people. Among them was Carlos Santiago-Luna, 21, who passed away as a result of the injuries he sustained in the crash. Another passenger, a 15-year-old girl, was paralyzed from the chest down. The other three victims also suffered injuries, and they continue to deal with the medical ramifications of those injuries.

Investigators determined Ngo had a blood alcohol concentration of .12.

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