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News Advisory

Kenneth Guyear, 27, of 64-02 72nd Street in Middle Village, who is charged with stealing an idling car while intoxicated and striking two young pedestrians who died of their injuries, was arraigned tonight before Queens Criminal Court Judge Joseph Zayas on a criminal complaint charging him with first-degree assault, first-degree vehicular manslaughter, second-degree manslaughter, third-degree grand larceny, third-degree criminal possession of stolen property, criminally negligent homicide, fourth-degree grand larceny, leaving the scene without reporting a felony, and operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. He faces up to 25 years in prison if convicted.

At the time of his arrest, the defendant allegedly made the following oral and written statements to law enforcement personnel:

- “I am coming from a party. This is my friend’s car. The car has been damaged for two weeks. I didn’t just have an accident. I had three glasses of alcohol. I’m not drunk. I can hold my alcohol. We’ve been having trouble with the car for two weeks.
- “My attorney is going to have your job. My name is Kevin Guyeal. I’ve been to Rikers a thousand times. I’m not giving you any more info. I’m homeless. I live on the street. I have a license but it’s revoked. I had three glasses of vodka. The car smells like alcohol but what did I do?
- “I had three glasses of vodka. I was coming from a sweet sixteen party. I drink. I don’t try to score drugs. If I answer questions, will you give me a summons.
- “You guys don’t know what you’re doing. You have nothing on me. You’re just locking me up for DWI? I’m gonna have your job. For a black cop you just follow what the white guy tells you to do.
- “I do three bags of cocaine per day and I smoke pot.
- “I came from a party. I was drinking and got into a fight with my father and I stole the car. I drove and saw people. I slowed down and didn’t see them again.
- “I stole the car and saw people crossing the street. I slowed down. I have a drinking problem and a pill problem.

(MORE)

- “I was at a party. I had five or six vodka drinks and took two Xanax pills. I stole the car that was parked on the street. I drove the car and saw the pedestrians but I didn’t think I hit anybody. I kept driving and then stopped the car and looked for blood on the car. I kept driving and the police stopped me.”

Judge Zayas ordered Guyear held without bail and to return to court on February 17, 2009.

Guyear was also arraigned before Judge Zayas on a second criminal complaint charging him with third-degree criminal mischief, making graffiti and possession of graffiti instruments. Judge Zayas set bail in that case in the amount of \$3,500 and a return date also of February 17, 2009.

Finally, Judge Zayas set bail at \$15,000 for an outstanding Brooklyn felony DWI case in which an arrest warrant had been issued for Guyear.

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Note to Editors: E-version of this press advisory posted at www.queensda.org

Guyear is represented by Ruth Johnson, of Legal Aid (718-286-2000)