



Village of Mount Prospect **Press Release**

VILLAGE AND CONSULTANT ADDED TO JAKUBOWSKI COMPLAINT

DATE: June 2, 2017

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On May 30th, the Village of Mount Prospect was served with an amended complaint brought by Eric Jakubowski, as administrator of Joni Beaudry's Estate. The complaint adds the Village and Ciorba Group, Inc., as defendants, in addition to defendant Hanna Burzynska, claiming that all are liable for the death of Joni Beaudry on June 9, 2016, shortly after Hanna Burzynska's automobile struck Joni Beaudry as Ms. Beaudry was crossing Central Road at the Weller crosswalk.

Although the crosswalk at Central and Weller had been significantly upgraded with roadway and signal improvements to enhance safety prior to the collision, the complaint nonetheless alleges that the Village, as owner of the improvements, and Ciorba, as their design engineer, are responsible for the collision. As stated by Village officials shortly after this tragic event, the Village firmly believes it acted properly and with all due regard for the safety of intended users of the crosswalk in making the crosswalk improvements within the requirements and limitations of State and federal laws.

"Central Road is owned and controlled by the Illinois Department of Transportation," stated Village Manager Michael Cassady. "The Village and our design engineers were required to work within very precise rules established by Federal and State regulations. We had little discretion in the ultimate design, location or operation of the beacons or crossing."

The Village took on the crossing improvements project after receiving several complaints from neighborhood residents that the previous pedestrian crossing was unacceptable. Upon completion of the project, the crossing was far safer for pedestrians and motorists. The carelessness of driver Hanna Burzynska was the main legal cause of the horrible accident. The Village intends to vigorously defend the case.

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