

## DETROIT COP CHARGED IN DEADLY COLLISION

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A **Detroit** police lieutenant **charged** with driving drunk on a one-way street and killing a 20-year-old man was arraigned Friday on second-degree murder charges, nearly two weeks after the crash.

Lt. James Agee, 55, of the 13th (Woodward) Precinct wiped away tears as the judge told him his rights and attorneys debated his bond.

Magistrate Steve Lockhart of 36th District Court set a \$100,000 personal bond and ordered that Agee be placed on a tether that would measure his blood alcohol level. Lockhart said Agee could drive.

During Agee's seven-minute arraignment, the magistrate and prosecutor never referred to the 18-year police veteran as lieutenant.

Robert Moran, an assistant Wayne County prosecutor, said Agee "was a danger to society."

Along with the second-degree murder charge, which carries a maximum life sentence upon conviction, Agee was **charged** with operating a vehicle while intoxicated causing death, which carries a maximum 15 years **in** prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Nehemiah Thompson, 20, had just dropped off his girlfriend and was less than two blocks from his home when Agee's SUV reportedly slammed into his car as he turned left from Warren onto Burns around 3:15 a.m. on June 19, Thompson's family said.

Police said Agee had a blood-alcohol level of 0.23, nearly three times the legal limit.

Moran said Agee was traveling more than 50 m.p.h. on the residential street when the crash occurred.

Agee, who was off duty at the time, has been suspended without pay.

The Thompson family expressed frustration about how long it took officials to charge Agee, saying they suspected he was getting special treatment because he is a police officer.

Agee did not have any traffic citations on his driving record, according to the Secretary of State's Office.

His attorney, Fred Walker of Royal Oak, asked the judge to "focus on 55 years of non-offenses."

Agee's preliminary exam is scheduled for Aug. 26.

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Caption: Photo J. KYLE KEENER/ Detroit Free Press

**Detroit** Police Lt. James Agee, 55, shed tears as he was **charged** with second-degree murder during a video arraignment Friday. **Detroit cop** James Agee can drive while out on bond, but he must wear a tether that measures blood alcohol level.

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