

NEWS > CRIME AND PUBLIC SAFETY

SUBSCRIBER ONLY

## Grosse Pointe resident accused of intentionally ramming billboard truck

Authorities: Eyewitness identified suspect as being behind the wheel





By **MITCH HOTTS** | mhotts@medianewsgroup.com | Macomb Daily

UPDATED: September 16, 2024 at 8:57 p.m.

---

A man who comes from a well-known family in the Grosse Pointes communities has been charged with several crimes relating to him allegedly crashing into a billboard truck multiple times this summer.

William Michael-Louis Matouk II, 36, of Grosse Pointe, was arraigned Friday in Grosse Pointe Woods District Court on charges of malicious destruction of personal property, a 10-year felony, and other crimes.

The charges were authorized by the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office after prosecutors in Wayne County identified a potential conflict of interest in this case.

"We take this case very seriously," Macomb Prosecutor Peter Lucido said in a news release. "By allegedly using his vehicle as a weapon, the defendant put lives at risk, and it is fortunate that the injuries sustained were not more severe. We are committed to ensuring justice is served."

According to prosecutors, Matouk drove a Chevrolet Express van into a billboard box truck near Mack Avenue and Vernier Road in Grosse Pointe Woods on June 30. He then backed up and struck the box truck two more times before fleeing in the van, prosecutors said.

Authorities said an eyewitness identified Matouk as being the driver of the van.

---

Continue watching

**Defensive lapses, poor play by Jared Goff are hurting Lions ...**  
after the ad

The driver of the billboard box truck suffered non-life threatening injuries.

In addition to the property destruction count, Matouk was also charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, a four-year felony, lying to a peace officer, a two-year felony and a misdemeanor charge of failure to stop after a collision.

Chief Judge Theodore Metry set a \$50,000 personal bond. He ordered Matouk to have no contact with any of the witnesses, surrender his passport, and seek permission before being allowed to leave the state of Michigan.

Matouk is the nephew of the late JoAnn Matouk Romain, who died 14 years ago, but whose death has been shrouded in controversy since then.

JoAnn Matouk Romain went missing on January 12, 2010 after attending evening services at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church on Lake Shore Road.

Her body was found two months later by fishermen in Amherstburg, Ontario, which is about 30 miles southwest of where she disappeared in Grosse Pointe.

Police classified the 55-year-old woman's death as suicide by drowning, but her family believes she was killed, noting an autopsy showed there was no water found in her lungs. Her family say police failed to interview witnesses, fabricated documents and lied to protect fellow officers.

Tim Matouk, a cousin of JoAnn Romain, works as an investigator for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, which may be the reason Prosecutor Kym Worthy cited a conflict of interest. At the time of JoAnn Romain's death, he was working as a Harper Woods police officer.

---

The case of JoAnn Matouk has already been well documented and more media projects are in the works. JoAnn Matouk Romain's family also owned the Merchant's Fine Wine & Spirits store on Mack Avenue.

A probable cause hearing is scheduled for 8 a.m. Oct. 16 and a preliminary exam is scheduled for 10 a.m. Oct. 23 in 19th District Court before Chief Judge Sam Salamey.

*Originally Published: September 16, 2024 at 8:38 p.m.*

## Around the Web

REVCONTENT



### Here's How Much You Should Pay for Affordable Gutter Guards

LeafFilter Partner



### Limited Time Offer: \$3 Ivermectin Made in the USA

All Family Pharmacy



## Find out the New Walk-in Shower Cost for Sterling Heights in 2024

[homeshowerdeals.com](https://homeshowerdeals.com)

## Surgeon: Pain Down the Leg? Use This "Sciatica Trick"

LA Fit

## Back Surgeon: "Sciatic Nerve Pain? Do This Immediately" (Watch)

LA Fit

---

## Clear Skin: Targeted Acne Treatment

Search Ads| Acne Treatment

## Bladder Care: Advanced Bladder Cancer Treatment

Search Ads| Bladder Cancer

## 4 Worst Blood Pressure Drugs (Avoid)

Primal Health

---

## A Love Letter From the Sea: Sea Glass Rainbow Bird

Sherum

## Always Place a Ziplock Bag on Your Car Mirror When Traveling Alone, Here's Why

Sogoodly

## Caitlin Clark Steps out With Her New Partner And Stuns Fans

Sunday Digest

---

## 4 Warning Signs of Dementia (Do Not Ignore)

Simple Brain Fix

## Michigan: Say Bye to Your Car Insurance Bill if You Live in These Zip Codes

Otto Quotes

## Plan Smart: Professional Financial Planner

Search Ads | Financial Planner

---

## Lion Grabs Terrified Baby Deer, Then This Happens

hightally

## 1/2 Spoon of This (Before Bed) Eats Your Belly Fat Like Never Before!

Fast Lean Pro

## A 70-year-old Granny Made a Bra for Elderly Ladies That is Popular All Around

Ribili

---

Parasitologist From Sterling  
Heights : One Teaspoon Kills All  
Parasites in Your Body!

ParasiteRelief

Hair Grows Back in 2 Weeks! at  
Any Stage of Baldness

BioGrow

Erase Nerve Damage  
(Neuropathy) With This Simple  
Daily Routine

---

## Puppy Refuses to Leave Railway Police Bursts Into Tears When They Discover Why

learnitwise

## The One Wd40 Hack You Aren't Supposed to Know

habbitribe

## Psoriatic Arthritis is Silent but Deadly - See What It Looks Like

Psoriatic Arthritis

---

## Sterling Heights: Three Banks Introduce 12% Interest Rates on Savings

Saving Accounts

## Never Put Mustard in Your Fridge, Here's Why

Life Hacks Garden

## Keurig Alert: the Shocking Fact That Almost Ended Many Users' Loyalty!

Coffee Magazine

---

## Tom Cruise's Daughter Was a Beautiful Child, Look at Her Now

i AM Famous

## The Breathtaking Footage of the Failed Take-off of a Giant Airplane

learnitwise

## Medical Expert Found a Way to Wipe out Lung Mucus, Phlegm, Tar

WellnessGaze Lung Health

---

## New Ductless AC Units Cost Almost Nothing! (See Prices)

aircondition

## Bipolar Disorder: 7 Signs You Didn't Know About (Test Yourself)

Bipolar Test

## 10x20 Storage Units in Sterling Heights Are on Clearance Sale (See Prices Here!)

Storage Units

---

## 7 Bipolar Symptoms Most People Are Unaware Of! (Take a Quick Test)

Bipolar Test

## Sterling Heights: Unsold Lab Diamonds on Clearance Sale: See the List!

Lab Diamonds

## Timeless Treasures: Explore Antiques

Search Ads| Antiques

---

## Sterling Heights: New Senior Apartments From \$250/month - Stunning!

Senior Living

## Do You Know What Crohn's Disease in Females is Like Take a Look!

Crohn's Disease Treatment

## Obvious Indication of Bipolar Disorder You Don't Notice: Quick Test

Bipolar Test

---

## What Triggers Myelodysplasia Syndrome Will Shock You! (Learn More)

Myeloma Symptoms | Search Ads

## Dangerous Signs That You Have Psoriatic Arthritis (Take a Peek!)

Psoriatic Arthritis Treatment

## Social Savvy: Master Social Media Marketing

Search Ads | SM Marketing

---

## Neuropathy is Not From Low Vitamin B (Meet the Real Enemy)

WellnessGaze Neuro

## The Truth About Costco's Kirkland Meat Almost No One Knows

learnitwise

## 15 Best Dog Breeds for Seniors - No. 7 Will Surprise You

Mom Life Weekly

---

## What Causes Primary Immunodeficiency? Get Ready to Be Stunned!

Immunodeficiency

## Shrink Your Enlarged Prostate Without Surgery - Here's How

WellnessGaze Prostate

## Early Signals of AML Leukemia You Should Definitely Know About (Take a Look)

Leukemia Treatment

---

## The Truth About Hair Loss and How to Control It (Naturally)

WG Hair Restore

## Forget Metformin, Do This if You Have Diabetes (Genius)

WellnessGaze Diabetes

## This Removes Wrinkles and Eye Bags Like Crazy (Going Viral)

WellnessGaze Skin Health

---

## Insomnia? Simple Ritual Before Bed Relieves Mind, Anxiety (Try Tonight)

WG Sleep Health

## Ace Dark Grey Power Recliner

Gardner-White

## Anyone With Vertigo Dizziness Should Watch This (They Hide This From You)

WellnessGaze Vertigo

---

## Newly-discovered Root Factor in Age-related Joint Decay

WellnessGaze Joint Pain

## Neuropathy Breakthrough: Experts Speechless

Nerve Recovery Max

## Weak Heart Linked to High Blood Pressure & Cholesterol

WellnessGaze Heart

---

# We Will Guess Where You Grew Up in 20 Questions

Bleacher Breaker

**2024 > September > 16**

---