



**Phoenix Police Department**  
**Public Affairs Bureau**  
620 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



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# MEDIA ADVISORY

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**Date/Time:** September 21, 2023, around 7:31 p.m.  
**Incident:** 2023-1442187  
**Location:** 1400 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
**Victim:** Leonardo Cortez, 20-year-old, deceased

## Late Evening Hit and Run Leaves Pedestrian Dead

(September 22, 2023) Phoenix Police detectives are searching for a vehicle that took off from the scene of a collision where a man died.

On September 21, 2023, around 7:30 p.m. officers responded to the area of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Buckeye Road regarding a collision involving a pedestrian. When officers arrived, they located the adult male pedestrian, identified as 20-year-old Leonardo Cortez, with serious injuries. Life saving measures were attempted by Phoenix Fire personnel, but Cortez did not survive his injuries and was pronounced deceased on scene. The vehicle involved in the collision took off from the scene.

Detectives responded to assume the investigation. Preliminary information suggests that Cortez was crossing 7<sup>th</sup> Street, midblock, when he was struck by the vehicle involved, which was traveling northbound on 7<sup>th</sup> Street. What led up to the collision remains part of the ongoing investigation. Anyone with information is asked to call Silent Witness at 480(WITNESS) or 480(TESTIGO) and provide an anonymous tip. Rewards will be paid for information leading to an arrest in this case.

*Sergeant Rob Scherer*  
*Public Affairs Bureau*