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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MAN WHO FLED AFTER STRIKING AND KILLING CHILD
ON ELKTON ROADWAY SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS**

ELKTON – Nestor La Guillen Parra, 31, was sentenced to six years in prison after pleading guilty to failing to remain at the scene of an accident that killed eleven-year-old Mesiah Lafayette on an Elkton roadway on November 16, 2024. On Monday, June 2, 2025, after a statement of facts was read into record, the Honorable Cameron A. Brown of the Circuit Court for Cecil County found Parra guilty of failing to remain at the scene of an accident which resulted in death. The maximum penalty for the charge is ten years incarceration and/or a \$10,000 fine. Maryland State sentencing guidelines calculated a recommended range of time for Parra to serve of three months to four years' incarceration which was exceeded when Judge Brown sentenced Parra to six years' incarceration.

On November 16, 2024, just before 9:00 p.m., officers with the Elkton Police Department responded to the intersection of Elkton/Newark Road and Belle Hill Road for the report of a pedestrian struck where the driver of the striking vehicle fled the scene. Witnesses informed investigators the driver of the suspect vehicle had a green light but struck the child who was riding a bicycle in the crosswalk. Lafayette was transported to Christiana Hospital in Delaware, where he was pronounced deceased.

Descriptions of the striking vehicle were vague, but through investigative efforts and information learned from the public, the suspect vehicle was located in Elkton on Booth Street with a tarp covering it. Upon removal of the tarp, investigators observed damage to the windshield and were able to identify the vehicle as the one involved in the crash and the driver as Parra. Parra was

ultimately charged and apprehended on November 19, 2024, in Wilmington, Delaware, with a bus ticket in his possession for Atlanta, Georgia. Investigators had reason to believe Parra made plans to flee the country after reaching Atlanta.

Accident reconstruction of the incident determined that Parra had not been speeding, and fault could not be attributed to Parra. Parra's act of fleeing the scene after striking the child resulted in his incarceration.

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