

Deputy Has First Court Hearing In Vehicular Homicide Case

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The courtroom was nearly full on Monday, when a La Crosse County deputy appeared for the first time on a vehicular homicide charge.

Some, including past and present members of local law enforcement, were there in support of Deputy Trisha Stratman. Many others in court were friends and relatives of accident victim Brandon Jennings, the 16-year-old who died last summer when Stratman's squad car slammed into his car at a high rate of speed.

Judge David Rice of Monroe County set no unusual conditions for the deputy's five thousand dollar signature bond. District attorney Tim Gruenke was in his office during the brief hearing, having excused himself from the case to avoid conflict of interest.