

FALLEN FINEST

POLICE OFFICER DAVID A. WILLIS

10 Precinct

Officer David Willis died as a result of an automobile accident while responding to a call of “shots fired”.

The 911 call that the officers were responding to turned out to be a false report.



On Saturday, September 23rd, 1995, Police Officer Willis and his partner were responding to a call of “shots fired” at West 28th Street between 9th and 10th Avenues in Manhattan. While enroute to the scene, their patrol car was struck by a 7 ton U.S. Postal Service truck at 11th Avenue and 30th Street. Upon impact, Officer Willis was ejected from the vehicle. The patrol car spun around, mounted the sidewalk, struck a protective pole surrounding a fire alarm box, the base of a street light and finally the side of a building before coming to a stop on the sidewalk.

Police Officer Willis was rushed to St. Vincent’s Hospital in critical condition with severe head injuries. He died two days later, on September 25th, 1995

The person arrested for falsely reporting the crime that resulted in this tragic incident was sentenced to a two-year prison term.

Officer Willis was posthumously awarded the New York City Police Department's Purple Shield Medal.

Police Officer David A. Willis had served with the Department for more than 4 years and had just turned 31 years old. He was survived by his mother, Dolores and his son, David Jr.

