

Drunk driver who killed 18-year-old gets six years

By **Jim Herr** - March 6, 2018



Accident investigators work during the overnight hours on Shanley Street to recreate the crash scene after a bicyclist was struck just after midnight on August 11, 2017. (Jim Herr/Cheektowaga Chronicle)

CHEEKTOWAGA – State Supreme Court Justice John L. Michalski sentenced Paul Hintermeier of Cheektowaga to six years in prison Tuesday morning.

The 37-year-old [pleaded guilty in January](#) to Vehicular Manslaughter in the Second Degree and Leaving the Scene of an Accident Resulting in Death.

Mr. Hintermeier ran a stop sign as he turned left onto Shanley Street from Richard Drive hitting, [18-year-old bicyclist Damian Garra last August](#). Mr. Garra later died.

Erie County District Attorney John J. Flynn's office says Mr. Hintermeier had BAC level of .16, twice the legal limit.

Mr. Flynn commends the investigative work of the Cheektowaga Police Department, including

Accident investigators inventory the scene where a bicyclist was struck on Shanley Street during the early morning hours of August 11, 2017. (Jim Herr/Cheektowaga Chronicle)

Officer Eric Jakubowicz and Lt. Steven Berecz. Assistant District Attorney Patrick B. Shanahan prosecuted the case.