

Car slams into class at Gilbert day spa, 1 dead, 8 hurt

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1. 22-year-old Lacey Gruntorad died in the accident.

GILBERT, AZ (CBS5) -

One person was killed and eight others injured when a car rammed into a student clinic and day spa in Gilbert on Friday morning.

The car ran through the front of the building near Baseline and Power roads, Gilbert Police Lt. John Lyle said.

Lyle said the car was driven by an 87-year-old woman who was leaving a bank, hit a passenger car in the parking lot and careened into the building.

The car crashed through a classroom with eight students and one teacher at Spa Pima, a student clinic and day spa associated with Pima Medical Institute, an unidentified employee of Spa Pima told CBS 5 News.

Student Lacey Gruntorad, 22, was killed in the crash.

"It didn't seem real. I was waiting for her to text me and say she was ok," said her close friend Brandon Sharp.

Sharp said he is helping her mother and family cope with the loss. He told CBS 5 News the family is in shock, but not angry at the elderly driver.

"I can't blame anybody. It's a horrible, horrible accident," he said.

The spokesperson for Spa Pima said four people were taken to the hospital with injuries. Two of those injured were released as of Friday night and the other two victims remain in the hospital but are expected to be OK.

Neither the driver nor a passenger with her were hurt, Lyle said.

The students were being trained and were not working with customers, the employee said.

The crash happened just after 10 a.m.

No other information was immediately available.

Source: <http://www.kpho.com/story/23549675/car-slams-into-class-at-gilbert-day-spa-1-dead-11-hurt>