Taxi Driver and Chauffeur Safety Fatality File



They’re offering a reward to find the suspects.

A New York City taxi driver was killed while chasing after passengers who attempted to rob him in Queens on Saturday, according to the New York City Police Department.

Separate organizations are offering a combined $18,500 in rewards for any information leading to the convictions of the suspects in the death of Kutin Gyimah, 52.

Gyimah had completed a trip in a yellow cab minivan in the Rockaway Beach area around 6:30 a.m. Saturday when his passengers allegedly tried to rob him after they arrived at their destination, police said.

The cabdriver attempted to chase the passengers down and was struck by at least one of them, which caused Gyimah to fall and hit his head on the ground and lose consciousness, police said.

When police officers responded to a call of an assault in progress, they found Gyimah lying in the roadway with trauma to the back of his head, police said. Gyimah was taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Fernando Mateo, a spokesperson for the New York State Federation of Taxi Drivers, also spoke at Sunday’s news conference.

“Probably was the first fare of his day. It was probably the first person that he picked up and guess what—it was the last person that he picked up,” Mateo said. “Because his life was taken away. For what? For money?”

The Federation of Taxi Drivers is offering a $15,000 reward leading to the conviction of the suspects, Mateo told CNN.

Mateo said he hopes to raise enough money to create a college scholarship fund for the victim’s four children, who he says are ages 3, 5, 7, and 8.

NYPD Commissioner Keechant Sewell encouraged people to submit tips to help arrest the perpetrators of the “senseless” attack in a tweet on Saturday.

In a statement, City Hall said the tragedy is “not only devastating, but unacceptable.”

“Violence will not be tolerated in our city, which is why we’re working every day to get violent criminals off our streets. We extend our deepest condolences to the victim’s family, friends, and coworkers during this painful time, and we will work diligently to bring all people responsible to justice,” the statement said.