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Governor



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Media Release

Driver Arrested for DUI and Fleeing from Crash Scene on New Years Day

On Saturday morning, New Years Day, at approximately 10:10 am, troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a motor vehicle accident on State Route 431 (Mount Rose Highway) near Fawn Lane. When troopers arrived on scene they learned that the at-fault driver involved in the collision had fled from the scene on foot. Witnesses to the accident and the victim-motorists at the scene provided troopers a description of the errant male driver.

The details of the collision started when the driver of a silver BMW 325 sedan, later identified as 38-year-old Ryan D. Simpson of Reno, was traveling west on the four-lane highway and allowed his vehicle to strike the rear of a parked silver Chevrolet Silverado whose occupants were outside of their vehicle assisting another motorist who was installing tire chains on his car. Both vehicles were parked on the right shoulder and were not in the travel lane. Simpson allowed his vehicle to depart the travel lane and onto the right shoulder of the highway causing the right front portion of his sedan to strike the left rear portion of the pickup causing the pickup to move approximately 40 feet.

Simpson's car rotated off of the highway and down a short embankment. The unrestrained motorist sustained several lacerations to his head when his face traveled through a portion of the windshield. None of the motorists who were standing outside of their vehicles were injured and the third vehicle was not struck.

As troopers were being updated to the unfolding developments of the crash, deputies from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office were also alerted to the fleeing driver. There was an obvious blood trail to follow, but the fleeing subject had a significant start on his trek ahead of troopers and deputies.

A short time later two troopers saw Simpson in a field near a residential area in the vicinity of the Mount Rose Highway. He was taken into custody and an ambulance was immediately summoned. Simpson was taken to the hospital where he was treated and medically discharged for his injuries.

He was transported from the hospital and taken to the Washoe County jail and booked on the following charges:

- DUI Alcohol and Drugs – 2nd Offense
- Failure to Use Due Care while Driving
- Duty to Give Information / Stop to Render Aid
- Hit and Run Property Damage Accident
- Failure to Report Accident to Police
- Possession of Marijuana < 1 ounce
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

He is still in custody this morning with a bail amount of \$3,435.00.

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