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December 21, 2012

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Media Release

Names of Victims Involved in Fatal Crash on 431 near Joy Lake Road Released

On Friday, December 21, 2012 at 1:52 pm, troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a motor vehicle collision on State Route 431, just east of Joy Lake Road. The preliminary crash investigation details indicate a 2001 GMC Yukon XL, driven by 50-year-old Tracy L Scott of Reno, was traveling west on the two-lane highway at the time of the crash. It appears that Ms. Scott may have pulled out onto the highway from a driveway and then lost traction on the snow covered roadway. Her vehicle traveled into the opposing lane where it was struck by an approaching 2001 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup towing a two-axle utility trailer and driven by Kurt D. Heinrichs, 36 of Reno.

The front of the Dodge struck the left side of the SUV resulting in life-threatening injuries to Ms Scott. She and Mr. Heinrichs were both transported to Renown Regional Medical Center by REMSA personnel. As a result of the extremely serious injuries sustained in the crash, she did not survive the event and was pronounced deceased at the hospital. Mr. Heinrichs was treated for his injuries and was discharged from the hospital later that evening.

The highway was closed in both directions for about an hour at the crash scene so that emergency crews could stage their vehicles and complete the on-scene portion of the investigation. Eastbound traffic was turned around near Joy Lake Road and west bound traffic was turned around just east of the crash site. One lane of the highway was opened just before 3:00 pm and troopers alternated the traffic pattern around the crash scene until just after 7:00 pm when the entire area was re-opened.

Witnesses to the event are encouraged to call the NHP-Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) office in Reno at (775) 689-4614 regarding case number NHP-121219080 or e-mail Trooper Scott Morron at smorron@dps.state.nv.us

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