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Media Release

Passenger Ejected and Killed in Rollover Accident Near Fernley

On Saturday morning, December 15th, 2012, at approximately 9:00 am, troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a single-vehicle rollover crash on westbound Interstate 80 near mile marker 50, approximately 2 miles east of Fernley.

The preliminary crash investigation details indicate a black 1999 Ford Expedition carrying five family members from the Winnemucca area was traveling west in the right or number two travel lane. A light amount of snow had fallen earlier that morning. The driver, 41-year-old Jose Cruz Juanes-Chavez, lost control of the vehicle and the SUV began to travel toward the center median area.

The vehicle rolled over and ejected his 16-year-old daughter, Yesica P. Juanes. She sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene. The other family members riding inside the vehicle included Yesica's younger sister, 15-year-old Deyanira, her 11-year-old brother Oscar, as well as their mother, 41-year-old Hortencia Gonzalez-Ruiz.

All four of the surviving family members received various injuries in the crash ranging from minor to moderate with Oscar receiving the most serious as he was partially ejected during the rollover. They were all transported from the scene via ground ambulance by Central Lyon County Fire Department personnel and taken to Renown Regional Medical Center in Reno. All four have been discharged from the hospital.

The three siblings were not utilizing seat belts; however, both parents were properly restrained. As a safety reminder to all motorists, please be certain seat belts are worn by each and every occupant riding in a motor vehicle as motor vehicle crashes are always unplanned events. Additionally, with winter-like weather possible during this time of year, always adjust your driving habits to the current roadway and weather conditions. Speed too fast for conditions is generally the most common cause of crashes during those times when roadways are wet or covered with snow or ice.

