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Media Release

17-Year-Old Washoe Valley Teenager Gravely Injured in Pleasant Valley Rollover

Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at approximately 3:57 pm, troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a single-vehicle rollover accident on US 395 Alternate (US395A) near Ames Lane in Pleasant Valley. 17-year-old Heather Brown of Washoe Valley was driving a gold 2003 Dodge 4-door sedan south on the four-lane highway where the posted speed limit is 50 miles per hour.

For reasons still being investigated, Heather abruptly steered her vehicle to the left causing the sedan to travel across the center turn lane and both northbound travel lanes before departing the east side of the highway. After leaving the roadway edge, her vehicle struck a tree and rolled over through a section of right-of-way fence before coming to rest on its roof. She sustained life-threatening injuries in the crash and was transported to Renown Regional Medical Center by REMSA personnel.

The accident caused the temporary closure of both northbound lanes for nearly five hours where emergency vehicles were staged so that troopers could capture the roadway evidence and complete their on-scene portion of the investigation. Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and deputies from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office assisted our agency with traffic control duties by guiding motorists around the crash scene area.

As of this morning, Heather is currently on an artificial life-support system at the hospital as a result of the extensive injuries she suffered in the event. The Nevada Highway Patrol's Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) is investigating this tragic event. Witnesses to the crash are encouraged to contact Trooper Doug Hildebrand at (775) 689-4623 or dhildebrand@dps.state.nv.us regarding case number NHP-130423030.

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