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Media Release

Excessive Speed Involved in Motorcycle and BMW Sedan Crash on IR-580

On Thursday, April 25, 2013 at approximately 12:18 pm, a trooper on duty with the Nevada Highway Patrol came upon a crash involving a motorcycle and a sedan on IR-580 just north of the Glendale Avenue interchange in Reno only seconds after it happened. Moments earlier, he observed a silver sedan and a blue motorcycle enter northbound IR-580 from the Mill Street onramp when both vehicles proceeded north at a very high rate of speed. While attempting to overtake and eventually stop either the motorcycle or sedan for excessive speed, both vehicles continued to accelerate to speeds more than 100 miles per hour. As the trooper was passing the Glendale overpass he came upon the crash site and saw the sedan still skidding and noticed the motorcyclist had been ejected from his bike. He immediately called for an ambulance as well as additional troopers to assist him with the crash scene.

Troopers learned that 34-year-old Dietrich DeJean of Reno had been driving the silver 2004 BMW 2-door coupe, while 28-year-old Justin A. Stevens of Carson City was driving a blue 2004 Suzuki GSXR600. The two vehicles collided just north of the Glendale interchange and the force of the high speed collision ejected Stevens from his motorcycle. His body traveled more than several hundred feet on the concrete highway surface, crossing all seven northbound travel lanes, before coming to rest near the right portion of the freeway. The BMW sedan skidded out of control and came to rest on its wheels near the center median area. Miraculously, no other vehicles were involved.

Dietrich was not injured in the collision and was initially placed into handcuffs as the initial trooper on scene thought Dietrich may have attempted to flee the crash location. Meanwhile, several motorists had stopped to render aid to Stevens prior to the arrival of REMSA personnel minutes later.

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Once the scene was secured and controlled, troopers received conflicting statements about the details of the crash. The Major Accident Investigation Team, or MAIT, was dispatched to the location to provide their assistance with the investigation. Once the investigation is completed, our agency will request a warrant for any and all applicable criminal charges of both drivers to the Washoe County District Attorney's Office for review.

Four of the seven travel lanes at the crash location were temporarily closed for just over an hour so troopers could complete their on-scene portion of the investigation. Personnel from the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and deputies from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) assisted our agency with the temporary traffic control duties. All lanes were cleared just before 1:30 pm.

The injuries Stevens sustained are not believed to be life-threatening, but he did receive road rash on most of his body. He was still being medically evaluated this afternoon at Renown Regional Medical Center.



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