

Brian Sandoval
Governor



James Wright
Director

Troy L. Abney
Chief
Nevada Highway Patrol

September 5, 2013

Trooper Chuck Allen
Nevada Highway Patrol – Northern Command
Public Information Officer
callen@dps.state.nv.us
775-689-4680 or 775-230-4921

Media Release

Motorcyclist Seriously Injured in Accident on US 395 Near Lemmon Drive

On Thursday, September 5, 2013 at approximately 11:33 a.m., troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a crash on northbound US 395 near the Lemmon Drive interchange involving a motorcyclist who was seriously injured. The crash investigation details indicate the contributing factor was attributed to three bales of hay which separated from a load of hay being transported on a white 1997 Dodge 3500 one-ton flatbed truck. The driver of the truck who was transporting hay and other animal feed; 33-year-old David P Atherton of Reno, saw the three bales of hay separate from his load and he immediately slowed and parked on the right paved shoulder. He told troopers at the scene he was walking back to retrieve the hay when he observed a motorcycle and rider sliding on the asphalt.

50-year-old Brian Taylor of Reno was riding his red and white 1997 Honda Valkyrie F6 motorcycle northbound when he attempted to avoid the displaced hay. He applied the brakes but was unable to avoid at least one of the hay bales. The collision with the hay caused him to separate from his motorcycle where he slid more than 200 feet on the asphalt surface. He sustained serious, but non-life-threatening, injuries and was airlifted by Care Flight from the scene and flown to Renown Regional Medical Center.

The accident scene initially had both northbound lanes of the highway blocked to park emergency vehicles and to briefly stage the helicopter. Troopers were able to open the right travel lane shortly after 12:00 pm and the entire roadway was re-opened at around 12:45 pm. Trooper John Protain is investigating this crash. Witnesses or anyone with additional information are encouraged to contact him via the Department of Public Safety-Communications Center at (775) 687-0400 regarding case number NHP-130900413.



XXXX