



Nevada Highway Patrol

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Media Release

Bicyclist Seriously Injured After Being Struck in Tunnel at Cave Rock in Douglas County

Yesterday morning Thursday July 10th at approximately 9:50 am, Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a bicycle versus commercial vehicle accident that occurred on US 50 in the tunnel at Cave Rock in Douglas County.

The crash investigation details learned so far indicate a 2004 Kenworth tractor truck and trailer driven by 39 year old Richard J. Pettay of Carson City and a single rider bicyclist 48 year old Clarence M. Aldridge of Bakersfield, CA where both traveling eastbound on US 50 in the right lane and entered the tunnel with the tractor truck following the bicycle.

For reason unknown at this time Mr. Pettay did not see the bicyclist and the front of the tractor struck the rear of the bicycle. Mr. Aldridge was thrown from the bicycle inside the tunnel. After colliding with the bicycle Mr. Pettay exited the tunnel and stopped. Mr. Aldridge came to rest inside the tunnel in the right lane. He was stabilized by EMT's and was later transported by Care Flight to Renown Regional Medical Center with serious injuries.

Mr. Pettay is cooperating with law enforcement during their investigation. Alcohol or drugs is not a factor at this time. There is not a bike lane inside the two lane tunnel and the speed limit is 35 mile per hour.

Trooper Chris Kelly of the Nevada Highway Patrol's Major Accident Investigation Team is investigating this tragic event. Witnesses or anyone else with more information can reach out to him at (775) 689-4661 or ckelly@dps.state.nv.us regarding case number NHP-140700874.



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