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## Media Release

## Motorcycle Driver Critically Injured in Hit and Run Accident on July 4th Succumbs to Injuries

On the afternoon of July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at approximately 1:20 pm, Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a motorcycle v. vehicle accident that occurred at the intersection of Pyramid Highway and Tyler Way in Sparks.

Preliminary investigation details indicate a 1998 white Ford pickup driven by 49 year old Mark John Kesner of Sparks made a left turn from Pyramid Highway into a gas station into the path of a 2003 black Harley Davidson motorcycle driven by 51 year old Kenneth Roger Stewart of Sparks and passenger 19 year old Cameron Stewart also of Sparks. This caused the motorcycle to collide with the pickup. After the collision Mr. Kesner stopped his vehicle and fled from the scene.

Troopers at the scene obtained a search warrant to access the cell phone that was left at the scene that belonged to Mr. Kesner. Information gathered from the cell phone assisted the troopers in apprehending Mr. Kesner that evening. Mr. Kesner was booking into Washoe County jail with the failing to yield the right of way while making a left turn and fleeing the scene of an accident. Whether alcohol was a contributing factor is still under investigation.

Both occupants of the motorcycle were transported to Renown. The passenger had minor injuries and was released later that same day. The driver Kenneth R. Stewart had serious injuries and was admitted into the hospital.

\*\*UPDATE\*\* - On July 14<sup>th</sup>, the Major Accident investigation Team (MAIT) was notified by the Washoe County Medical Examiner's office that Mr. Kenneth Roger Stewart had succumbed to his injuries resulting from the vehicle accident. Mr. Stewart was pronounced deceased on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

Trooper Mike Gocke of the NHP Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) is continuing to investigate the accident. Anyone who may have witnessed the accident or who may have any information related to the accident #140700347 is encouraged to contact him at (775) 689-4682 or <a href="mailto:mgocke@dps.state.nv.us">mgocke@dps.state.nv.us</a>

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