



Nevada Highway Patrol

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Media Release

Wellington Resident and His Dog Killed in Motor Vehicle Accident on State Route 208

This afternoon at approximately 12:49 pm, Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a collision on State Route 208 (SR 208) near Kyle Drive in Douglas County involving a commercial motor vehicle and a small pickup. This particular intersection is located nearly four miles east of US 395.

The preliminary crash investigation details indicate 87-year-old Samuel H. Dupuis of Wellington was driving his green 1992 Mitsubishi pickup on Kyle Drive and had been at the intersection with SR 208.

There is a stop sign posted for traffic on Kyle Drive where it intersects with the highway. Dupuis began to cross SR 208 and failed to observe an 18-wheeled commercial motor vehicle traveling east comprised of a blue 2013 Peterbilt tractor pulling a livestock semi-trailer transporting 10 black bulls.

The driver of the big-rig, 51-year-old William C. Whiteaker of Newman, California, applied the brakes and was unable to avoid a collision. The front of the big-rig struck the left side of the small pickup and both vehicles came to rest on their wheels near the north side of the highway. Dupuis sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced at the scene, and his dog that was riding with him in the cab was also killed in the tragic event. Whiteaker was not injured and all ten bulls appeared to have been injury-free as well.

Both travel lanes of SR 208 were temporarily closed for several hours while troopers completed their on-scene portion of the investigation. Personnel from the Nevada Department of Transportation assisted our agency with directing traffic onto the adjacent dirt shoulder during that timeframe.

Trooper Doug Hildebrand of the Nevada Highway Patrol's Major Accident Investigation Team is investigating this tragic event. Witnesses, or anyone with additional information, can reach him at (775) 689-4623 or dhildebrand@dps.state.nv.us regarding case number NHP-140300188.



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