



Nevada Highway Patrol

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Media Release

NHP Trooper Injures after Being Struck by Motorcycle

On Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at approximately 7:58 p.m., Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol observed two sport motorcycles driving reckless on southbound U.S. 95 north of Rancho.

In the preliminary crash investigation the trooper indicated that the speeds of the bikes were over 120mph and the bikes were splitting lanes and using the shoulders to pass vehicles. In a separate incident a NHP Trooper was investigating a single vehicle crash on the US95 southbound to go IR15 southbound ramp. Due to the active crash investigation the speed of traffic on the ramp was approximately 10- 15mph. A Freeway Service Patrol – Incident Response Vehicle was also on scene helping to provide traffic control because the right travel lane was blocked with only 1 lane open to traffic. As the trooper walked his crash scene examining evidence, he had traffic to his right and the Freeway Service Patrol Vehicle to his left.

The trooper saw the motorcycles approaching his location splitting the travel lanes and coming at the trooper. The motorcycle slowed down, revved his engine and then proceeded forward striking the trooper at speeds between 15-20 mph. The trooper was now stuck on the motorcycle with the front wheel between the trooper's legs and the motorcycle was now accelerating. The trooper quickly reacted by placing the driver in a "bear hug" and using his weight to bring the driver and motorcycle down to the ground on its left side. Within a few seconds the trooper that reported the motorcycles driving recklessly was on scene and the motorcycle driver was taken into custody.

The other sport bike continued southbound, never stopping at the scene. The injured trooper is a 12 year veteran of the Nevada Highway Patrol and was transported to University Medical Center – Trauma with non-life threatening injuries to his lower extremities.

The motorcycle driver was identified as 21 year old Tyler Mitchell. He was arrested and booked at the Clark County Detention Center for Reckless Driving and Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

For further information, you can contact either Trooper Chelsea Stuenkel at 702-469-3882 or Trooper Jason Buratzuk at 702-533-6808.

