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Media Release

Silver Springs Resident Killed in Head On Collision on US 50 A

On Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at approximately 11:11 a.m., Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a report of a head on unknown injury crash on US50A at approximately mile marker 10 in Lyon County.

Preliminary investigation indicates that a 2001 black C-Class Mercedes Benz being driven by Stephen Murray, a 54 year old resident of Alta California, was traveling northbound on US50A when his vehicle crossed over the center yellow pavement median lane lines. A green Honda Civic, being driven by Stephen Johnson, a 25 year old resident of Silver Springs, was traveling southbound on US50A approaching the black Mercedes Benz. Mr. Murray allowed the black Mercedes cross over the center lines and drive left of center (no passing zone) causing the left front of the Mercedes to strike the left front of the green Honda Civic. A white Chrysler PT Cruiser, driven by Michaela Cresta, a 21 year old resident of Silver Springs, was traveling southbound directly behind the green Honda Civic, ran over debris from the crash, but was able to avoid striking either of the 2 vehicles. Mr. Johnson, the driver of the green Honda Civic, succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased on scene. Mr. Murray, driver of the black Mercedes, was transported to Renown Regional Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

A witness to the incident was on the phone with NHP dispatchers when the crash occurred. The witness was calling in the Black Mercedes as a "reckless driver." All occupants were wearing their seatbelts at the time of the crash.

At this time, impairment is suspected and the results of the legal blood draw are pending. Mr. Murray was released later that day from the hospital and was placed under arrest. He was booked at the Lyon County Jail in Yerington on the listed charges: DUI Drugs with death, Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Marijuana, Driving left of Center.

Nevada Highway Patrol Trooper Garretson is investigating this crash. Anyone who may have witnessed this incident or who may have any information related to this crash is encouraged to contact Trooper Garretson at (775)689-4625 or kgarretson@dps.state.nv.us regarding NHP case #161201327





