



Nevada Highway Patrol

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Trooper Duncan Dauber Public Information Officer
Nevada Highway Patrol-Northern Command West
(775) 600-5568 or (775) 689-4680
ddauber@dps.state.nv.us

Media Release

Two Vehicle Collision Ends in Two Fatalities on Pyramid Highway and One Charge of Felony DUI

On Saturday, April 24, 2016 at approximately 10:07 p.m., Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a report of an injury crash at the intersection of Pyramid Highway and Disc Drive.

The preliminary crash investigation details indicate that a black Pontiac Grand Prix driven by 35 year old Mario Cortez of Sparks Nevada was traveling southbound on Pyramid highway approaching the intersection with Disc Drive. In front of the Pontiac, also southbound on Pyramid Highway, was a silver Honda Accord driven by 77 year old Sparks resident Mario Guansing and his wife, 74 year old Erlinda Guansing (who was occupying the right front passenger seat). The Accord was stopped, or was stopping at the traffic light with Disc Drive. Cortez failed to decrease his speed causing the front of the Pontiac to strike the rear of the Honda. Both vehicles were pushed southbound and came to rest on their wheels in the right shoulder of Pyramid Highway in the intersection with Disc Drive.

Cortez fled the scene on foot and was later found outside a local business establishment in near proximity to the crash location. Cortez was placed into custody and was transported by ground to a local area hospital where he was treated for minor injuries. Cortez gave verbal consent for a blood draw to determine impairment and was later booked into the Washoe County Jail on the following charges: Felony DUI Crash Resulting in Death (two Counts), Felony Hit and Run Crash Resulting in Death (two Counts), Failure to Stop at the Scene of a Crash, Fail to Render Aid at Vehicle Accident, Failure to Use Due Care, and Failure to Wear a Safety Belt.

Both Guansing and his wife were transported by ground to a local area hospital where they later succumbed to their injuries sustained during the crash. Both Guansing and his wife were wearing their seatbelts at the time of the crash.

This area of Pyramid Highway is two lanes in each direction and the speed limit is 55 mph.

Nevada Highway Patrol's Major Incident Reconstruction Team (MIRT) is investigating this incident. Anyone who may have witnessed this incident or who may have information related to this incident is encouraged to reach out to them at (775)688-2500 regarding case number NHP-160402155.

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