



Nevada Highway Patrol

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February 2, 2017

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Media Release

Unrestrained Driver Ejected and Killed

On Thursday, February 2, 2017 at approximately 7:40 p.m., Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a crash on westbound U.S. 95 on Boulder Highway.

The preliminary crash investigation revealed that a gray Dodge Journey was traveling southbound on Aliante Pkwy, approaching the intersection of westbound IR215. A silver Chevy Cruze was stopped northbound on Aliante Pkwy in the outside left turn lane at the intersection for westbound IR215. The driver of the silver Chevy entered the intersection, making a left turn on a green turn signal. The driver of the gray Dodge failed to obey the red traffic signal and entered the intersection of westbound IR215.

The front of the Dodge struck the right front of the Chevy. The Dodge continued in a southwest direction, struck a curb, traveled into the rock landscape and overturned. The unrestrained driver of the Dodge was ejected. The Chevy rotated across the southbound travel lanes of Aliante and came to rest on its wheels.

The female driver of the Dodge who was later identified as 29 year old Heather Laugeson, residing in North Las Vegas, NV succumbed to injuries sustained in the crash and was declared deceased on scene. The 4 restrained juvenile passengers in the Dodge were transported to University Medical Center trauma with non-incapacitating injuries.

The restrained 28 year old male driver and sole occupant of the Chevy was transported to UMC trauma with non-incapacitating injuries.

This marks NHP Southern Command's 7th fatal crash resulting in 7 lives lost. Of the 8 lives lost, 3 were on motorcycles, 1 restraint use was unknown and 4 were unrestrained drivers. We cannot stress enough the importance of buckling up. We don't want any more families to have to suffer the loss of a loved one in a fatal crash. We want to remind drivers that everyone has someone who loves them so please buckle up and arrive alive!

You can contact Trooper C. Stuenkel at 702-469-3882 or Trooper J. Buratzuk at 702-533-6808 for further information.

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