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February 18, 2012

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Media Release

Trooper Injured in Motor Vehicle Collision with Alleged Impaired Driver

On Saturday, February 18, 2012 at approximately 5:19 am, near US 395 and State Route 88 in Douglas County, NHP Trooper Dan Lopez was on duty and sustained minor injuries in a motor vehicle collision after the driver of another vehicle allegedly ran the red traffic signal light at that intersection. The right front of the errant driver's vehicle struck the left front portion of the patrol vehicle, a 2006 Ford Crown Victoria sedan.

Deputies from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) and other EMS personnel responded to the scene. The crash was investigated by DCSO and the errant driver was identified as 41-year-old Andrew Irvin of Gardnerville. At the scene of the accident, Irvin displayed objective symptoms of intoxication and being under the influence of drugs (marijuana). A DUI investigation was conducted, and Irvin was subsequently arrested by the DCSO and booked for the following charges: DUI - Alcohol/Drugs, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device (signal light). Irvin was later released on Saturday evening, February 18th, 2012, after posting \$2,287.00 bail. His court date is set for April 30th, 2012.

Meanwhile, NHP Sergeant Dean Buell transported Trooper Lopez from the crash scene to Carson Valley Medical Center in Gardnerville where he was treated and released and he will be recovering at home.

Trooper Lopez is a five-year veteran with the Nevada Highway Patrol and is assigned to the Carson City and Minden areas. He also serves as one of the public information officers for NHP-Northern Command West. Prior to joining NHP, Trooper Lopez spent 15 years working for the Nevada Department of Transportation.



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