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1/8/2018

NEWS RELEASE

Two Vehicle Fatal Collision

Date/Time: Sunday, January 7, 2018 @ 12:09 p.m.
Location: US-54 North, Mile Marker 22
Vehicle 1: 2007 black Honda Civic
Driver: 24 –year old Mariah Bernardez of El Paso, TX
Passenger 1: 23-year old Michael Issa of El Paso, TX **(DECEASED)**
Vehicle 2: 2013 WHILE Chevrolet Silverado
Driver: 21-year old Christian Rivera of Ft. Bliss, TX

EL PASO, Texas – The El Paso Police Department’s Special Traffic Investigations (STI) unit responded to assist Central Patrol officers with a two vehicle fatal collision just after noon on Sunday. The investigation revealed that a black 2007 Honda Civic, driven by 24-year old Mariah Bernardez was traveling north on US-54 changing lanes from left to right erratically. The Honda swerved right across the dirt median and struck a center cable divider, knocking down two poles and the cable. The vehicle continued to travel west across two other lanes at the same time a 2013 Chevrolet was north on US-54 in the center lane. The Chevrolet collided with the Honda. As a result of the collision the driver of the Honda, Bernardez and passenger 23-year old Michael Issa were transported to University Medical Center (UMC) with serious injuries. Mr. Issa died at the hospital. STI has identified Failure to Control Speed on the part of the Honda as a contributing factor in this fatal collision.

This is the 2nd traffic fatality of 2018 compared to 1 during this same time period in 2017.

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