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**NEWS
RELEASE**

07/ 14/ 2023

41st Traffic Fatality

Date:07-14-2023 **Time:** 12:07 AM
Location: I-10 East Mile marker #18 (Schuster)

Veh#1: 2022 Freightliner & Trailer
Driver #1: Lipeng Tian 43-year-old resident from Alhambra, CA

Veh#2: 2008 Chevy Tahoe
Driver #2: Agent S. Diaz US Border Patrol

Veh#3: 2017 Kia Rio
Driver #3: Unoccupied

Pedestrian: Sarah Joy Martinez, a 25-year-old resident of Northeast El Paso
(Deceased)

El Paso, Texas— Special Traffic Investigators continue to investigate the latest fatality in El Paso. Investigators were called out this morning after reports of a three-vehicle crash on I-10 East near Schuster. The initial investigation revealed that Mrs. Martinez, during a heavy rainstorm, was traveling east on Interstate 10 when she lost control of her vehicle. Martinez's vehicle spun out of control, hitting the right-side guardrail and ultimately stopping in the 3rd and 4th lanes of the freeway. On duty, Agent Diaz from the Border Patrol was traveling in the same direction and observed the Kia Rio facing the wrong way. Agent Diaz slowed down and turned on his emergency lights. During this time, Martinez exited her vehicle while the 2022 Freightliner approached the crash. Unable to stop, the semi hit the Border Patrol unit and struck the Kia. Martinez was also hit by the semi and died at the scene due to her injuries. Agent Diaz received minor injuries and was taken to a nearby hospital. The driver of the semi-truck was uninjured.

Heavy rainfall and speed are believed to be contributing factors in this crash.

This traffic fatality is the 41st this year compared to 39 this time last year.



Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
Among All Members of the Community

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