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NEWS RELEASE

11/03/2023

City's 66th Fatal Traffic Crash

Date: 11/01/2023 Time: 10:10 PM Location: 12400 Pebble Hills / 2300 Tierra Blanda

Unit#1: 2005 Ford Focus Driver: 77-year-old Agustin Hernandez, resident of East El Paso Passenger: 69-year-old Patricia Rose Hernandez-Rios, resident of East El Paso

Unit#2: 2014 Chevrolet Impala Driver: 26 yea-old Johntrayious Deontra Austin, resident of Horizon, Texas

Unit#3: 2022 Subaru Forester Driver: 55-year-old Juan Antonio Rodriguez, resident of East El Paso (Deceased)

Unit#4: 2019 Kia Sorento Driver: 50-year-old Julio Augusto Jimenez, resident of East El Paso **Passenger:** 51-year-old Laura Jara, resident of East El Paso

El Paso, Texas—On Wednesday, the Special Traffic Investigations Unit was asked to assist in a four-vehicle crash that resulted in a fatality. The preliminary investigation revealed that Hernandez was traveling east on Pebble Hills when he made a left turn toward the 2300 block of Tierra Blanda. At the same time, Austin, who was driving a 2014 Chevy Impala and may have been speeding, was traveling west on Pebble Hills. Hernandez sideswiped the Impala. This collision caused the car to slide out of control across all lanes of traffic onto the eastbound lanes, striking Mr. Jimenez's vehicle as he was traveling east on Pebble Hills. This collision caused the Forester to T-bone the Impala, and both cars ultimately came to rest in a dirt lot.

Due to the crash, Mrs. Hernandez sustained minor injuries and was transported to a local hospital. Austin and Rodriguez were transported to a local hospital with serious injuries. However, Rodriguez died at the hospital as a result of his injuries sustained in the crash. All other parties did not report any injuries. The contributing factor in this collision is Hernandez's failure to give the right of way to Mr. Austin. This is the 66th traffic fatality as compared to 58 this same time last year.

