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## **NEWS RELEASE**

## 79<sup>th</sup> Traffic Fatality

12/20/2023

Time: 11:25 pm **Date:** 12-17-2023

**Location:** Loop 375 Mile Marker 41 (Vista del Sol-ramp)

Vehicle #1: 2008 Nissan Sentra

**Driver:** 43-year-old Perla Canales, resident of East El Paso, TX (Deceased)

**Vehicle #2:** 2004 Honda Element

**Driver:** 36-year-old Jorge Saucedo, resident of East El Paso, TX Passenger: 18-year-old Pamela Casas, resident of East El Paso, TX

Passenger: 2-year-old child resident of East El Paso, TX

El Paso, Texas— Special Traffic Investigation Unit continues to look into the Sunday night crash that resulted in a fatality. This past Sunday, police were called to Loop 375 South and mile marker 41 to investigate a two-vehicle collision. When officers arrived, they requested the assistance of Special Traffic Investigators due to the severe injuries involved. The preliminary information revealed Canales was southbound on loop 375 and, for unknown reasons, came to a complete stop on the interstate. At the same time, Saucedo was merging onto Loop 375 South from the on-ramp of Vista Del Sol when he rear-ended Canales at highway speeds. Canales was rushed to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. Saucedo and the child were also transported to a local hospital for treatment of injuries. Casas left the scene while officers were conducting the investigation.

On 12-19-2023, Special Traffic Investigators were notified by the medical examiner's office that Canales had been pronounced deceased. This is the 79<sup>th</sup> traffic fatality of 2023 compared to 72 this time last year.