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**NEWS
RELEASE**

01/20/2026

City's 2nd Traffic Fatality

Date: 01-16-2026 **Time:** 9:25 PM

Location: 10800 McCombs

Vehicle #1: 2004 Chevy Trailblazer

Driver: 31-year-old Arnaldo Vargas, Northeast El Paso, Texas resident.

(Deceased)

Vehicle #2: 2009 BMW

Driver: 23-year-old Luis Solorio, Northeast El Paso, Texas resident.

Passenger: 5-year-old female child

EL PASO, Texas— On 01-16-2026, police responded to the 10800 block of McCombs on a two-vehicle crash with injuries. Officers on scene requested the assistance of crash investigators, who took over the investigation. The preliminary investigation revealed that Vargas was traveling south on McCombs but failed to stay in his lane and crossed the raised median onto the Northbound lanes. The Chevy Trailblazer struck head-on with the 2009 BMW driven by Solorio, who was unable to swerve out of the way.

Vargas was transported to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. On 01-17-2026, Special Traffic Investigators were contacted by the Medical Examiner's office to notify that Vargas died at the hospital. No seatbelt on behalf of Vargas is a contributing factor in this fatality. Investigators continue to investigate the case.

This is the 2nd traffic fatality of 2026 compared to 3 this same time last year.

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

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