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October 12, 2017

NEWS RELEASE

Police Investigate Fatal Collision

Date/Time: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 @ 9:14 p.m.
Location: 600 Sunland Park
Vehicle 1: maroon 2014 Kia Sorento
Driver 1: 49-year old Michael Mendoza of El Paso, TX
Vehicle 2: red, white & blue 2001 Suzuki GSX motorcycle
Driver 2: 34-year old Robert Gonzalez of El Paso, TX **(DECEASED)**

El Paso, Texas – The Special Traffic Investigations (STI) unit responded to assist Westside Patrol with a collision that involved a vehicle and motorcycle Wednesday evening. The preliminary investigation revealed that a 2001 Suzuki GSX was being operated by Robert Gonzalez east at the 600 block of Sunland Park. At the same time a 2014 Kia Sorento was being operated by Michael Mendoza with a front seat passenger west at the 600 block of Sunland Park. Michael Mendoza attempted to make a left turn into a business, and failed to yield the right of way to Robert Gonzalez. As a result, Robert Gonzalez struck the right front side of the Kia Sorento and was ejected from the motorcycle. He sustained serious injuries and was transported to University Medical Center where he succumbed to his injuries. There were no other injuries reported. STI has determined that failure to yield the right of way on the part of Michael Mendoza and speeding on the part of Robert Gonzalez are contributing factors in this collision. This investigation continues.

This is the 41st fatality of 2017 compared to 50 during this same period in 2016

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