



City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FATAL TRAFFIC COLLISION

RIVERSIDE, CA – On December 19, 2014, members of the Riverside Police Department assigned to the Traffic Bureau were conducting DUI enforcement in downtown Riverside.

At approximately 0138 hours, a traffic officer observed a full-size truck traveling the wrong way on Lemon Street from Mission Inn Ave. The vehicle then turned west on University Ave and collided with a parked car. As the officer reached the scene and activated his overhead lights and siren, the suspect backed up and drove away east bound on University Ave causing a vehicle pursuit to ensue. The suspect vehicle reached speeds of over 80 mph before losing control at Eucalyptus and striking a palm tree. Upon impact, the vehicle broke into two pieces and burst into flames. The driver and sole occupant was ejected from the burning vehicle and was on fire. Officers on scene extinguished the flames and summoned medical aid.

The driver, a 28 year old Riverside resident, was transported to a local hospital where he succumbed to the injuries suffered in the collision. The identity of the driver is not being released at this time pending the Coroner's investigation.

The department's Major Accident Investigation Team responded and the collision is currently under investigation. Anyone with information related to this investigation is urged to contact Detective Felix Soria at 951-826-8720.

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