



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE/TIME: October 18, 2011 - 7:12 pm

LOCATION: Soquel Ave and Dakota Street

TOPIC: Felony Hit and Run Accident

CASE NUMBER: 11S-08907

INVOLVED SUBJECTS:

1. Name: Unknown

VICTIM(S)

AGE

Male -Transient (Santa Cruz)

42 years old

INFORMATION:

On October 18, 2011 at 7:12 pm the Santa Cruz Police Department responded to a report of a vehicle versus pedestrian injury accident at Soquel Avenue and Dakota Street. Officers arrived within minutes and found a male victim in the middle of the roadway with significant injuries. According to witnesses, the suspect's vehicle had fled the scene prior to our arrival.

Based on witness statements, the victim was crossing Soquel Avenue at Dakota Street in the crosswalk. The suspect vehicle, a blue 1998 Honda Civic, was traveling westbound on Soquel Avenue at what witnesses stated was approximately 35 mph. The suspect vehicle struck the victim causing the victim to strike the windshield and land several feet from the point of impact. It is unknown at this time whether alcohol and/or drugs were a factor in the accident. Traffic investigators are currently working to determine the exact speed of the Honda upon impact and what the primary factors were for the collision.

The victim was treated by the Santa Cruz Fire Department and Paramedics. The victim was later ground transported to a trauma center in San Jose with major injuries to his head, legs, chest and hands. Investigators spoke with medical staff at the San Jose hospital early this morning and were informed by their staff that the victim sustained serious injuries but is expected to survive.

Officers canvassed the area looking for the Honda Civic and located the vehicle shortly after the accident in a parking lot near the corner of Soquel and Front Street. The driver of the vehicle had abandoned the vehicle and had fled the area on foot. The vehicle had major damage to the front end and the windshield. The vehicle was towed and will be processed for physical evidence by Traffic investigators.

Investigators were able to locate the registered owner of the vehicle (a male Santa Cruz resident) and were told that the vehicle had been sold but the name had not been changed on the registration. This was corroborated by the buyer of the vehicle whom investigators were also able to locate late last night. According to the buyer of the vehicle, the vehicle was recently resold to a third party and the name was not changed on the registration. Investigators are working to determine who this third party person was and who was driving at the time of the incident.

To Leave ANONYMOUS information regarding this incident, please call our TIP LINE (831) 420-5995
Or leave a tip via www.santacruzpolice.com or our iPhone app.