



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE



DATE/TIME: April 3, 2014 10:14 PM

LOCATION: 2400 block of Mission Street

TOPIC: Fatal traffic Collision

CASE NUMBER: 14S-02626

Updated Information as of April 4, 2014

Traffic investigators continued to examine the scene and reconstruct the events of this fatal collision. The involved vehicle was inspected and determined to be free of any mechanical deficiencies and causation.

Evidence at the scene and witness statements confirmed that the pedestrian was crossing Mission Street (State Route 1) from the south sidewalk, toward the north sidewalk when he was struck. The pedestrian successfully crossed the two southbound lanes of Mission Street, and began to cross the northbound lanes when he was struck by a black '07 Nissan Maxima, driven by a 19 year old Santa Cruz resident. The pedestrian was struck in the #1 lane of northbound Mission Street and was within the crosswalk. This crosswalk is equipped with overhead pedestrian warning lights and signage. The lights have to be activated manually. It is not clear if those lights were activated by the pedestrian prior to crossing.

There is no indication the driver was speeding or driving recklessly prior to the collision. The driver was not under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the collision and was completely cooperative with investigators.

The pedestrian has been identified as:

Bruce Picano, 49 years old – Santa Cruz Resident

Investigators will continue to follow up with evidence collection and analysis before a final determination of cause and fault are established. An autopsy is pending for Mr. Picano.

Background

On April 3, 2014 at approximately 10:14 PM a fatal traffic collision occurred in the 2400 block of Mission Street (State Route 1) involving a vehicle and a pedestrian. The pedestrian sustained fatal injuries as a result of the collision.

Mission Street remained closed for approximately 4 hours while investigators processed the scene for evidence.

Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or either involved party in the hours prior to the collision is encouraged to contact the Santa Cruz Police Department Traffic Unit at (831) 420-5862. To leave ANONYMOUS information regarding this incident, please call our TIP LINE (831) 420-5995 or use our mobile iPhone and Android App available at our Website www.santacruzpolice.com.

For additional information, contact: Deputy Chief Steve Clark

Phone: (831) 420-5815
