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**NEWS
RELEASE**

07/27/ 2020
El Paso, Texas

46th Traffic Fatality

Date: July 24, 2020

Time: Approximately 9:33 p.m.

Location: 3200 N. Zaragoza

Vehicle 1: 2018 White International Truck Tractor

Vehicle 2: 2015 Mississippi Tank Trailer

Driver: 39 – year old Javier Muniz Jimenez from Cd. Juarez MX

Vehicle 3: 2012 white Volkswagen Passat

Driver: 20 – year old Michael Allen Debrule of the 12500 blocks of Tierra Leon, El Paso Texas 79936

Passenger: 20 –year old Rashon Elamin Peterson of the 1700 block of N. Lee Trevino (Deceased)

Special Traffic Investigations officers responded late Friday evening to investigate a vehicle vs semi collision involving serious injuries. The initial investigation revealed the tractor-trailer driver was traveling northbound at the 3200 blocks of Zaragoza in the number one lane approaching the intersection of Rich Beem and Zaragoza. A pick-up truck that was traveling ahead of the tractor-trailer made a sudden stop and attempted to make a left turn from the number one lane instead of the designated turning lane. Mr. Jimenez conducted an evasive maneuver to avoid a collision with the pick-up truck by partially driving into the second lane, which was occupied by a white Volkswagen Passat. The semi-tractor trailer sideswiped Mr. Debrule's vehicle causing the vehicle to spin out of control. Debrule's vehicle came to rest after striking a traffic light pole at the intersection of N. Zaragoza and Rich Beem. Peterson a passenger of vehicle number three died from injuries sustained at the scene. Contributing factors believed to have caused this collision is the driver of vehicle number one driving into lane number two and sideswiping the white Volkswagen Passat, wet roadway conditions, and speed.

This is the 46th traffic fatality of the year compared to 37 this time last year.

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