



Huntington Beach Police Department

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Eric Parra, Chief of Police

Press Release

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Fatal Traffic Collision – Pacific Coast Highway, South of Warner Avenue

On Monday, November 20, 2023, at approximately 11:00 p.m., the Huntington Beach Police Department (HBPD) responded to a traffic collision on Pacific Coast Highway, south of Warner Avenue. Initial reports indicated a vehicle had left the highway and crashed into the wetlands.

Upon arrival, officers, paramedics, and lifeguards located a gray 2019 Toyota RAV4 submerged in the wetlands. Rescue efforts were immediately underway, and the solo driver was extracted from the vehicle and transported to a local trauma center for treatment.

Unfortunately, on Friday, December 1, 2023, the driver, a 29-year-old female resident of Costa Mesa, succumbed to her injuries and was pronounced deceased at a local hospital. The Orange County Sheriff's Department- Coroner Division will release the driver's identity, pending next of kin notifications.

Based on the preliminary investigation, the solo RAV4 was traveling northbound on Pacific Coast Highway south of Warner Avenue when it veered off the highway for unknown reasons. At this time, it is unknown if impairment was a factor with the driver.

The collision investigation is ongoing and being handled by the HBPD Multidisciplinary Accident Investigation Team (MAIT). Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or the events leading up to it is encouraged to contact HBPD Traffic Investigator V. Rattanchandani at (714) 536-5231.