



State of New Mexico

Department of Public Safety

October 19, 2007

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Fatal Crash on Glade Road north of Farmington

Farmington--New Mexico State Police are investigating an incident that occurred on October 19, 2007 at 12:37 AM involving the Farmington Police Department and San Juan County Sheriff's Office.

The preliminary investigation reveals these details: at 12:37 AM, a Farmington police officer attempted a traffic stop at the intersection of South Side River Road and Broadway involving a 2006 4X4 GMC pick up. The driver of the pick up did not stop for the officer and evaded the officer traveling on Farmington city streets. The fleeing driver clocked at speeds in excess of 80 mph and committed several other hazardous traffic violations.

At approximately one minute into the vehicle pursuit, the Farmington Police officer made the decision to terminate the pursuit due to increase danger to the public.

A short time later, the vehicle was spotted in the vicinity by a San Juan County Sheriff's Deputy and he attempted a traffic stop. The suspect driver again increased his speed to an unsafe level and the deputy immediately deactivated his emergency equipment.

During the next few minutes, the suspect vehicle traveled through several city streets and then turned west on Pinon Hills Boulevard. The original pursuing officer spotted the suspect vehicle traveling west on Pinon Hills Boulevard at a high rate of speed. The officer followed the vehicle at a safe distance and speed without activating emergency equipment and did not attempt another traffic stop. The officer was approximately ½ mile behind the suspect vehicle when the driver turned right onto County Road 1980, otherwise known as Glade Road. The suspect vehicle was observed to have accelerated on Glade Road after making the left turn. While traveling north on Glade Road at a high rate of speed, the suspect driver lost control of the vehicle while attempting to negotiate a curve.

The suspect vehicle rolled over and the driver was ejected. The suspect driver was pronounced dead at the scene.

The suspect driver was later identified as Kyle Drake, age 24 of Farmington, NM. It is not known at this time if alcohol was a factor in this accident. This investigation is ongoing.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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District 10 Office

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