



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SECTION

For Release: June 24, 2008
6:45PM.

Police Vehicle Struck While Officer is Assisting a Motorist

The Traffic Enforcement Section is investigating a Motor Vehicle Collision involving a Police Vehicle that was stopped and the officer was assisting another motorist. The collision occurred on Tuesday, June 24, 2008 at approximately 4:55PM on eastbound US Rt. 40 at US Rt. 29. An Auxiliary Officer was dispatched to a vehicle stopped on US Rt. 40 blocking a portion of the left hand lane (fast lane). When the officer arrived, he stopped his vehicle behind the disabled vehicle and activated the vehicle emergency lights, which are yellow and white. The driver of a 1995 Ford Aerostar Van traveling eastbound on US Rt. 40 failed to see and stop for the Auxiliary Vehicle and struck it in the rear.

The Auxiliary Officer was not injured in the collision; however, a passenger in the van was transported to Howard County General Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

The driver of the van was charged with Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid a Collision and Negligent Driving. The driver is identified as Scott Anthony Serrano, 17 years of age, 3200 blk. Normandy Woods Drive. Mr. Serrano was not injured in the collision.

The Auxiliary Officer was Petrus Lucas who was severely injured in a similar collision on US Rt. 40 in November 2005. Auxiliary Officer Lucas returned to duty after a long period of rehabilitation and was once again serving the citizens of Howard County and the Police Department in his role as an Auxiliary.

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Note: Any additional information will be available through the Office of Public Affairs when the office reopens at 8:00 a.m.