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HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
3410 COURTHOUSE DRIVE, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043

MEDIA RELEASE
UN-RESTRAINED CHILDREN INJURED IN COLLISION

The Traffic Enforcement Section is investigating a Serious Personnel Injury Collision that sent a 5 year old and a 6 year old to Johns Hopkins Hospital. The collision occurred on Columbia Road at Brookway on Monday, August 30, 2004 at approximately 4:23PM.

The 3 vehicle collision occurred when a Dodge Grand Caravan attempted to cross Columbia Road from the parking lot of the 7-11 Store. As the vehicle was crossing Columbia Road, it was struck in the passenger side by a Chevrolet Cavalier that was northbound on Columbia Road. The van overturned onto its side and struck an Audi A4 which was stopped on Brookway at the stop sign.

The driver of the Audi was not injured. The driver of the Cavalier was identified as Neemias Magana 21 years of age of the 5200 blk. Brookway, Columbia MD. Mr. Magana was not transported to Howard County General Hospital for minor injuries.

The driver of the Dodge Van was identified as General Ramirez 35 years of age of the 5100 blk. Brookway Columbia MD. Mr. Ramirez was not injured in the collision. In the van were Mr. Ramirez's two sons age 5 & 6. Both children were flown by MSP Helicopter to Johns Hopkins Hospital. The older child received minor injuries, the younger child is listed in Critical Condition.

Neither child was in a seat belt or booster seat. Maryland Law requires that children under 6 years of age and less than 40 lbs be secured in either a safety seat or booster seat. The use of seat belts, child safety seats or booster seats would have greatly reduced the injuries to the children.

Charges are pending further investigation by Pfc. Gallina.

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