

NEWS RELEASE

Chad Kasmar Chief of Police



Date: 5/24/2022 **TDD:** 791-2639

Contact: Richard Gradillas Sergeant / Public Information Office 520-791-4852 On-call PIO: <u>tpdpio@tucsonaz.gov</u> <u>http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police</u>

FATAL MOTORCYCLE COLLISION EAST SPEEDWAY BOULEVARD AND NORTH JONES BOULEVARD

On May 23, 2022, just before 2:45 p.m., officers from Operations Division Midtown were dispatched to the intersection of E. Speedway Blvd. and N. Jones Blvd. for a serious-injury collision involving a vehicle and motorcycle. Tucson Fire personnel responded and began treating those involved. The rider of the motorcycle was pronounced deceased at the scene. He has been identified as 26-year-old **Gage Bastian**. Next of kin was notified of his passing.

Traffic Detectives were contacted and responded to continue the investigation. Interviews conducted by detectives and officers determined that a white 2008 Lexus LS was attempting to make a left turn from eastbound Speedway Blvd. onto northbound Jones Blvd. At this time, Mr. Bastian was traveling westbound on Speedway Blvd. on a white 2007 Yamaha YZFR6 motorcycle when the Lexus struck him. The Lexus immediately stopped after the collision and cooperated with the investigation. An officer with the DUI Unit responded to the scene and determined that the driver of the Lexus was <u>not</u> impaired at the time of the collision. Witness statements and roadway evidence determined that Mr. Bastian was traveling at an excessive speed at the time of the collision.

This is an ongoing investigation, and no charges or citations have been issued. Failure to yield making a left-turn by the Lexus and excessive speed by Mr. Bastian are the major contributing factors in the collision.

Traffic Fatalities Year to Date:

For 2020 – 31	For 2021 – 40
Pedestrian - 11	Pedestrian – 20
Bicycle – 02	Bicycle – 01
Motorcycle – 06	Motorcycle – 09
Vehicle - 12	Vehicle – 10

####

Page 1 of 1

For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipació.

tucsonaz.gov