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NEWS RELEASE

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FATAL HIT & RUN BICYCLE COLLISION EAST 27TH STREET AND SOUTH PARK AVENUE

The Tucson Police Department is investigating a fatal hit & run bicycle collision that occurred this morning on Tucson’s South Side.

On November 15, 2019, at 3:09 a.m., officers from Operations Division South and the Tucson Fire Department were dispatched to the intersection of East 27th Street and South Park Avenue for a report of a serious injury hit and run collision involving a bicyclist. Tucson Fire responded rendered aid to the cyclist and transported the adult male to Banner University Medical Center with life-threatening injuries. Shortly after arriving at the hospital, the cyclist identified as **45-year-old Eric Michael Noriega** was pronounced deceased from the injuries he sustained in this collision. Mr. Noriega’s next of kin was notified.

Traffic Detectives with the Tucson Police Department responded to continue the investigation. After examining roadway evidence and speaking with witnesses, it was determined Mr. Noriega was riding his bicycle northbound on Park Avenue in the bike lane. The suspect vehicle, described as a dark-colored pickup truck similar in style to a Ford Ranger, was also northbound on Park Avenue. The vehicle struck Mr. Noriega on his bike from behind and continued northbound on Park Avenue without stopping. Mr. Noriega was not wearing a helmet at the time of this collision.

Detectives determined through interviews and roadway evidence that speed appears to be a factor in this collision. This is an ongoing investigation and no charges or citations have been issued as of today’s date. Detectives are asking anyone with information regarding this incident to please call 88-CRIME. You can remain anonymous.

Traffic Fatalities Year to Date:

For 2018 – 64	For 2019 – 65
Pedestrian – 28	Pedestrian – 33
Bicycle – 4	Bicycle – 5
Motorcycle – 6	Motorcycle – 10
Vehicle - 26	Vehicle – 17

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