
NEWS RELEASE

Roberto A. Villaseñor
Chief of Police

Contact: Maria Hawke
Sergeant / Public Information Office
520-791-4852

On-call PIO: tucsonpdpio@gmail.com
<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>

Date: 07/23/2013
TDD: 791-2639

FATAL MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION 2400 BLOCK WEST 44TH STREET – JUNE 24, 2013

On the early morning of June 23, 2013, officers from Operations Division South responded to the 2400 block of West 44th Street as a result of a report of a collision involving a single vehicle roll-over in the area. Upon arrival, they located the vehicle on its side off the roadway. The officers learned that there had been two occupants in the vehicle at the time of the collision. The adult male driver, later identified as Angel Ruelas (19-years of age), had fled from the scene of the collision, but was later returned to the area by a family member. The adult female passenger was seriously injured during the course of the collision. Emergency medical personnel from the Tucson Fire Department transported her to a local trauma center. She was later transported via helicopter to the Barrow Neurological Institute in the Phoenix, Arizona area. The female passenger was transferred at a later date and remained at a hospice facility in the Phoenix area. She succumbed to her injuries and was pronounced deceased on the evening of July 22, 2013. She has been identified as 18-year old Alicia Deegan. Next of kin have been notified.

On the morning of the collision, detectives from the Traffic Investigations Unit responded to the scene to further the investigation. They learned that Mr. Ruelas had been driving a 1995 Ford Bronco westbound in the 2400 block of West 44th Street. The roadway is a dirt road in that area. As the vehicle was traveling down the roadway, Mr. Ruelas lost control of it, and the vehicle left the road on the southern side of the roadway. The vehicle rolled and Ms. Deegan was ejected. She was not wearing a seatbelt. Mr. Ruelas received minor injuries as a result of the collision. He had been wearing his seatbelt. The preliminary investigative findings indicated that Mr. Ruelas may have been under the influence of alcohol at the time of the collision.

Mr. Ruelas was arrested for felony charges on the day of the incident. He was transported and booked into the Pima County Jail. His booking photograph is included below.

NEWS RELEASE

Roberto A. Villaseñor
Chief of Police



Angel Ruelas

####