



Ready to Protect,  
Proud to Serve

## NEWS RELEASE

Chad Kasmar  
Chief of Police

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**Date:** 12/11/2022  
**TDD:** 791-2639

### FATAL VEHICLE COLLISION 4900 BLOCK OF SOUTH NOGALES HIGHWAY

On December 11, 2022, patrol officers from Operations Division South were dispatched to a report of a single-vehicle collision in the 4900 block of S. Nogales Highway. Officers and personnel from the Tucson Fire Department arrived just after 12:00 a.m. and evaluated the occupants of the vehicle, a silver 2005 Nissan Armada. The front seat passenger of the vehicle was pronounced deceased at the scene and driver was transported to Banner University Medical Center with minor injuries. Officers identified the deceased passenger as 31-year-old **Ciera Marie Hunt**. Her family was notified of her passing. Traffic Unit Detectives were called to the scene to continue the investigation.

According to witness statements, in conjunction with roadway evidence, the driver of the Nissan was traveling southbound on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Detectives believe the driver ran the red light at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Irvington Road, and continued southbound as 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue turns into Nogales Highway. The driver then lost control of the vehicle and slid eastbound across all lanes of traffic, ultimately striking a tree and light pole. Roadway evidence indicates that the Nissan was traveling well above the posted 40 MPH speed limit. An officer from the Impaired Driver Enforcement Unit (IDE) responded to assist and determined that the driver of the Nissan was impaired at the time of the collision. Detectives identified the driver as 32-year-old **Cody Hamilton Smith** and charged him with several felonies, to include Felony DUI and Manslaughter. He is currently being held in the Pima County Jail.

Investigators have listed excessive speed and impairment as the known contributing factors; however, the investigation remains on going.

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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 anticipación.

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Cody Hamilton Smith

## Fatalities Year to Date:

**For 2021 - 81**

Pedestrian - 27

Bicycle - 7

Motorcycle - 10

Vehicle - 37

**For 2022 - 94**

Pedestrian - 47

Bicycle - 5

Motorcycle - 16

Vehicle - 26

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