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## NEWS RELEASE

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**Date:** 12/15/2018  
**TDD:** 791-2639

### FATAL VEHICLE COLLISION 8900 BLOCK OF SOUTH RITA ROAD

The Tucson Police Department is investigating a fatal collision that occurred yesterday evening on Tucson’s East Side.

On December 14, 2018, at approximately 6:20 p.m., officers from Operations Division East and members of the Tucson Fire Department were dispatched to the 8900 block of South Rita Road for a report of a serious injury collision involving two vehicles. Upon arrival, Tucson Fire personnel immediately transported one of the drivers to Banner University Medical Center with life threatening injuries. Shortly after arriving at the hospital, the driver sadly succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased. He was identified as **55-year-old Geoffrey Hayward**. Next of kin have been notified. The other driver involved was not injured and there were no other passengers in either vehicle.

Detectives with the Tucson Police Traffic Investigations Unit responded to continue the investigation. After conducting interviews and examining roadway evidence, they were able to determine that Mr. Hayward was driving a gray 2000 Acura TL passenger car while exiting a business parking lot on the west side of Rita Road. As Mr. Hayward attempted to make a left turn across Rita Road, he pulled in front of a silver 2008 Nissan Xterra SUV that was traveling southbound on Rita Road in the median lane. The driver of the Xterra was unable to stop in time and collided with the driver’s side of the Acura. The driver of the Xterra remained at the scene and cooperated with the investigation.

Neither speed nor impairments appear to be factors in the collision. No arrests or citations have been issued at this time. Detectives are continuing the investigation. Anyone with additional information is asked to call 88-CRIME.

#### **Fatalities Year-To-Date:**

For 2017 - 59  
Pedestrian - 24  
Bicycle - 1  
Motorcycle - 14

For 2018 - 68  
Pedestrian - 28  
Bicycle - 4  
Motorcycle – 7

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