



HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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Suitable For Public Dissemination

On 2/28/08 at approximately 12pm, a Hawthorne Police Officer was hit by a car while conducting a traffic stop in the 4000 block of Imperial Highway.

Two officers were conducting a traffic stop for traffic violations when one of the Officers noticed a van approaching at a high rate of speed towards them. The van veered over into the lane where the officers were standing. One officer was able to jump out of the way and was not hit. However, the second officer was struck by the van and was momentarily pinned between the van and the stopped car. After hitting the officer, the van collided into another car that was stopped in front of the officer.

The injured officer was transported to a local hospital and is listed in stable condition. He is expected to recover from his injuries. The California Highway Patrol is investigating the traffic accident. Preliminary reports indicate that the driver of the van possibly had a seizure or a heart attack and was not in control of the van at the time of the collision. The driver of the van along with the passenger was transported to local hospitals. Their conditions are not known at the time of this press release.

Contact: Lieutenant Michael Ishii / Public Information Officer
(310) 349-2835

12501 South Hawthorne Boulevard
Hawthorne, California 90250
Front Desk – 310.349.2700
Investigations – 310.349.2820