

## HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

12501 S HAWTHORNE BL | HAWTHORNE | CALIFORNIA | 90250

February 14, 2017

FILE #: 2017-1801

## PRESS RELEASE

CRIME: Felony Hit and Run with Significant Injury

On February 13, 2017 at approximately 6:46 am Hawthorne Police Officers were dispatched to the intersection of Hindry Avenue and Rosecrans Avenue in regards to an injury traffic collision. Hawthorne Police officers arrived on scene and located numerous vehicles and a motorcyclist who had been involved in a collision. The motorcyclist was severely injured and was transported to a local trauma center for treatment.

Subsequent investigation revealed that a motorcyclist and another motorist were stopped for a red light on Rosecrans Avenue at Hindry Avenue where they were waiting to make a left turn onto Hindry Avenue. A white SoCalGas pick-up truck rear-ended the motorcyclist and another vehicle while they were both stopped at the red light. The resulting collision was significant in itself and it forced the motorcyclist to be pushed forward and wedged underneath the front bumper of the pick-up truck. The SoCalGas truck, which was driven by a SoCalGas employee, came to a brief stop after the collision. The motorcyclist and his motorcycle were now wedged under the front bumper of the pick-up truck and the motorcyclist was trapped. The driver of the SoCalGas truck did not exit his vehicle to investigate the collision or render any aid to the trapped and injured motorcyclist. The driver then drove away with the motorcycle and the motorcyclist pinned underneath his front bumper southbound on Hindry Avenue until numerous passersby and other motorists forced him to stop his truck.

The driver of the SoCalGas pick-up truck was arrested at the scene for felony hit and run. The motorcyclist sustained major injuries as a result of being dragged by the pick-up truck. The motorcyclist is undergoing medical treatment for his injuries. The motorcyclist is also currently serving in the United States Airforce. If anyone was a witness to the above traffic collision please call the Hawthorne Police Department at 310-349-2703 or 310-349-2727.

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