



NEWS RELEASE

COLTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Henry Dominguez, Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arrest / Fatal Traffic Collision

Date: April 11, 2021
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: 900 Block of South Cooley Drive, Colton
Suspect: Ernesto Avalos 28 YOA / Resident of Twin Peaks
From: Lt. Ray Mendez
Case: 21-01983

Summary:

On April 11, 2021 at 2:25 pm, Colton Police Officers responded to the 900 block of South Cooley Drive in reference to a single vehicle collision. Upon arrival three occupants were located in the vehicle. The Colton Fire Department and AMR responded and transported all three occupants to a local hospital, where one of the juvenile occupants succumb to her injuries. The preliminary investigation reveals the vehicle was traveling southbound on Cooley Drive when it left the roadway and crossed over a raised center median then collided with an electrical pole and came to rest in the northbound lane of Cooley Drive. The Colton Police Department's Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) is currently investigating the collision. If anyone has any information regarding this investigation they are encouraged to call the Colton Police Department at (909) 370-5000.

*****UPDATE*****

During the investigation into the traffic collision officers found evidence that Ernesto Avalos was driving his vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. After receiving medical attention at a local hospital Avalos was booked into West Valley Detention Center on 4/12/21 for the charge of murder, child endangerment and felony DUI. During the investigation officers also learned that Avalos had a prior DUI arrest. On 4/13/21 Colton Police Department presented the case to the San Bernardino District Attorney's office. After reviewing the case the District Attorney's office charged Ernesto Avalos with murder, child endangerment and felony DUI reference DA court case number FSB21001428.

Must be approved by the Office of the Chief of Police prior to release
For additional information contact Lieutenant Ray Mendez, (909) 841-9423