



POLICE DEPARTMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2016

**CONTACT: David Ferguson
Communications Coordinator**

1488 S. Seguin Ave
New Braunfels, TX 78130
830.221.4134

dferguson@nbtexas.org

UPDATE: Vehicle vs. Pedestrian Fatality

UPDATE: The victim in this morning's fatal vehicle versus pedestrian accident has been identified as 17-year old Hunter Michael Thornton of San Marcos and next of kin has been notified. Pct. 4 Justice of the Peace Jennifer Saunders has ordered an autopsy, and the investigation continues; however, the initial investigation indicates that the cause of the incident was most likely suicide.

PREVIOUS RELEASE: New Braunfels, Texas — On today's date (12-02-16) at approximately 8:15am, the New Braunfels Police Department and the New Braunfels Fire Department were dispatched to the 3900 block of I-35 North (southbound main lanes – directly in front of the Wal-Mart Distribution Center) for reports of a vehicle versus pedestrian accident.

Emergency crews arrived and found a 17-year old male from San Marcos lying in the middle of the interstate. EMS personnel arrived and determined that life saving measures would be ineffective, and a Justice of the Peace was called to the scene to make the official death pronouncement. The identity of the victim is being withheld until next of kin has been notified.

The initial investigation (to include eyewitness reports) indicate that prior to the crash the 17-year old male pulled his pickup truck over into the grassy median, exited the vehicle, and intentionally walked directly in front of the oncoming 18-wheeler. The driver of the 18-wheeler, a 52-year old male from Indiana, was uninjured in the incident. No charges or citations are expected to be filed.

Following the incident, all of the main lanes of Southbound I-35 in that area were shut down so that the New Braunfels Police Department Traffic Unit and Criminal Investigations Unit can investigate the scene. That closure will remain in place until the investigation is complete, which could take several more hours.

Authority: David Ferguson – NBPD Communications Coordinator