

02/11/2014

MEDIA RELEASE

Incident Number: 14-08693

Information Contact: Douglas Miser, Battalion Chief

Incident Type: Vehicle Entrapment and Extrication

Date/Time of Incident: February 10, 2014 at 1:17 PM

Incident Location: East Thompson Boulevard

Cause: Under Investigation by Ventura Police Department

Injuries: 2 major injuries, 3 minor

Number of Personnel: 16 Fire, 8 VPD Officers, 3 Ambulances, 1 EMS Supervisor

Fire Equipment: 3 Medic Engines, 1 Truck Company, 1 Battalion Chief, 1 Assistant Chief

Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire Department, Ventura Police Department, Gold Coast Ambulance, American Medical Response

Thompson Blvd at Palm Street became the scene of a large complicated accident this afternoon after a driver of a large SUV lost control of the vehicle and slammed into the rear of a medium size sedan traveling Westbound. The large SUV did not stop and the two entangled vehicles traveled West on Thompson, screeching and swerving down both sides of the street for more than a quarter mile, before the two vehicles eventually became freed. The SUV then, at full speed, struck the rear of another four-door sedan, turned again and struck a tree adjacent to the Ventura Surf Shop.

Ventura Police quickly shut down Thompson Boulevard. and Fire resources arrived and declared the accident a "level 1 multi-casualty incident". The driver of the SUV was entrapped in the wreckage and was in critical condition, the passenger; also injured, was quickly removed from the vehicle and treated. Medic Truck 5 arrived and assembled a large cache of extrication tools and systematically dismantled the door assembly with the "jaws of life" and used hydraulic rams to force the dash of the vehicle off the drivers chest. The extrication took 15 minutes and American Medical Response and Ventura City Firefighter Paramedics initiated advanced life support on both victims of the SUV.

Additional arriving fire engines and ambulance personnel tended to the four other victims at the crash scene. Two patients were transported to the local trauma center while the remaining patients were transported to local hospitals. The driver of the vehicle initially struck from behind, was released against medical advice. Ventura Police interviewed witnesses and performed a traffic investigation.

Due to HIPAA we are prevented from disclosing an individual's protected health information (PHI). We may not release information regarding patient's names, DOB, address, SS# or medical status.

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