



## LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Jerry J. Adams, Chief of Police*

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### PRESS RELEASE

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**Release Date and Time:** 06/06/2007 @ 2115.

**Subject:** Fatal Vehicle Collision

**Contact:** Lieutenant William Barry at 209-329-2966 or [wbarry@pd.lodi.gov](mailto:wbarry@pd.lodi.gov)

**Details:** Lodi Police are currently investigating a fatality collision that occurred at 10:53 PM last night (06/05/2007) on Turner Road west of California Street in Lodi. Based on the preliminary investigation, it appears that a solo vehicle, traveling at high speed eastbound on Turner Road, left the roadway and collided with a van that was parked on a residence driveway. The vehicle then collided with a tree, causing massive damage and intrusion into the vehicle's passenger compartment.

The single passenger in the vehicle was determined to be deceased at the scene. The driver was transported to Lodi Memorial Hospital and was then airlifted to San Joaquin General Hospital. Members of the Lodi Police Department's Major Accident Investigations Team (MAIT) responded to the scene and began a detailed investigation of the collision. Based on the investigation, probable cause was found to exist to believe that the driver was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the collision. It was also found that the driver had never been licensed to operate a motor vehicle, and was the subject of a prior suspension action for excessive blood alcohol, effective in April of this year.

It is anticipated that the driver will be released from the hospital and booked into Lodi City Jail later this evening. Charges will include vehicular manslaughter and felony DUI. The occupants of the vehicle, a 1996 Pontiac Sunfire, are identified as follows:

**Driver:** Antonio Lucas Avellaneda, DOB 05/10/1983.

**Passenger (Deceased):** Manual Hernandez, DOB 03/29/1970

Both are residents of the 200 block of Cherry Street in Lodi.

MAIT personnel are continuing to gather evidence and statements to assist in determining the cause of this collision. Anyone who witnessed the collision or the events leading up to it is asked to call Sgt. Steve Carillo at 209-333-5558.

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Persons with information on this or any criminal case or activity are encouraged to call Lodi Area Crimestoppers at 209-333-6771. You may remain anonymous and be eligible for a cash reward.