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**NEWS  
RELEASE**

03/03/2025

# 9<sup>th</sup> Traffic Fatality

**Date:** 3-3-2025 **Time:** 12:38 AM

**Location:** US-54 South Ramp K (54S to I-10 W)

**Vehicle:** 2013 Kawasaki Ninja.

**Driver:** 23-year-old Nathan Verdugo, Las Cruces, NM resident.

**Passenger:** 20 Year-old Isbella Rose Mendez Las Cruces, NM resident  
**(Deceased)**

**EL PASO, Texas**— On 03-03-2025, the Special Traffic Investigators were called out to assist in a single-vehicle traffic crash that resulted in a fatality. The initial investigation revealed on 03-03-2025, Verdugo was operating a Kawasaki Ninja at a high rate of speed on US-54 South. As he entered the ramp from US-54 south to I-10 West, he struck the barrier on the left side of the roadway, causing his female passenger to become dislodged from the motorcycle. Verdugo was transported to a local hospital and treated for serious injuries sustained in the crash. His passenger died at the scene. The Special Traffic Investigations unit continues to investigate the crash.

This is the 9<sup>th</sup> traffic fatality compared to 11 at this same time last year.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**  
Among All Members of the Community

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