

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT:

7-3-13

Senior Traffic Officer Gary Whitmer (707) 441-4232 gwhitmer@ci.eureka.ca.gov

On Saturday 6-29-13 at about 10:07 in the afternoon Eureka Police Officers were dispatched to the area of 4th and "K" Streets on the report of an injury traffic collision involving a vehicle vs. a pedestrian in a wheelchair. Upon arriving at the scene, Officers found 64 year old Margaret Sanders of Eureka down in the roadway with severe injuries. Emergency Medical Services arrived on scene and transported Sanders to a local hospital. Due to the severity of her injuries Sanders was flown to an out of the area hospital for treatment. Shortly after arriving at the hospital Sanders passed away.

Officers contacted 78 year old Richard Lester, who was determined to be the driver of a 1997 Chevrolet van which was involved the collision.

A preliminary investigation showed that Lester traveling westbound in the right lane of 4th street and collided with Sanders as she was attempting to cross the street in her electric wheelchair.

The collision is still under investigation. At this point in the investigation fault has yet to be determined. Alcohol impairment may have been a factor in the collision. No arrests have been made.

EPD is asking anyone who witnessed the collision to contact Senior Traffic Officer Gary Whitmer at (707) 441-4232.