



LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Release Date and Time: 05/14/2007 at 1720 hrs.

Subject: Auto-Pedestrian Collision with Major Injuries

Contact: Lieutenant William Barry at 209-329-2966 or wbarry@pd.lodi.gov

Details: Lodi Police are currently investigating an auto-pedestrian collision that occurred at 3:09 PM today at the intersection of Turner Road and Lincoln Avenue. Based on the preliminary investigation, it appears that the pedestrian was crossing Turner Road from north to south, and was struck by an eastbound pickup truck. The pedestrian is believed to have been either in or near a marked crosswalk on the west side of the intersection at the time of the collision. She was transported to Lodi Memorial Hospital and was then airlifted to UC Davis Medical Center, where she is believed to be in serious condition.

The driver of the pickup was identified as John Yeralis, age 83, a resident of the 1100 block of Northwood Drive in Lodi. He was driving a 1997 Ford F150 pickup, which was registered to him. He stopped at the scene, and eventually went with investigators to the Lodi Police Department for detailed questioning. He has since left. The pedestrian was Claudia Linder, age 82, a resident of the 700 block of N. Lincoln Avenue. Investigators have been unable to find any relatives for Linder and are asking the public's assistance in doing so.

Members of the Lodi Police Department's Major Accident Investigations Team (MAIT) 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 the Lodi Police Department at 209-333-6727.

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.