

## Pedestrian Fatally Struck on Interstate 40 in Cibola County

Written by gallupsun  
Thursday, 19 March 2020 12:57

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Cibola County, NM - On March 18 at about 6:29 am, the New Mexico State Police investigated a fatality. A pedestrian was fatally struck by a vehicle on the on-ramp of Exit 72 off Interstate 40, west of Grants.

The initial investigation indicated a 2006 Toyota was merging onto Interstate 40 westbound from the on-ramp of Exit 72. For reasons still under investigation, a pedestrian, identified as Herman Padilla, 39 of Albuquerque, who was a passenger in a parked Commercial Motor Vehicle on the on-ramp, was struck by the Toyota. Padilla succumbed to fatal injuries and was pronounced dead on scene by the Office of the Medical Investigator.

The driver of the Toyota, who will not be named, was not injured. The driver did not appear to be under the influence of alcohol and is not currently facing charges. Seat belts appear to have been properly used.



belts

This crash remains under investigation by the New Mexico State Police Uniform Bureau, Crash Reconstruction Unit and Drone Team. No additional information is available.