



City of Ridgecrest  
**POLICE**  
DEPARTMENT



For Immediate Release

May 21, 2024

Contact: Captain Aaron Tucker - atucker@ridgecrest-ca.gov

## **Fatal Traffic Accident**

Ridgecrest, Calif. - On May 17, 2024, The Ridgecrest Police Department was dispatched to the intersection of S. Sunland St. and E. Bowman Rd. in response to a motorcycle vs. vehicle traffic collision. Upon arrival, Officers began rendering aid to the motorcycle rider until Liberty Ambulance and Kern County Fire Department arrived on scene. The motorcycle rider was transported to the Ridgecrest Regional Hospital where he later succumbed to the injuries sustained in the collision.

The RPD Traffic Division was activated and assumed the investigation. The investigation determined the motorcycle rider was traveling N/b on S. Sunland St. and did not stop at the designated stop sign. As a result, the motorcycle collided with the side of a vehicle traveling W/b on E. Bowman Rd.

The Ridgecrest Police Department was asked to share the following information from the Sierra Sands Unified School District as the motorcycle rider was a student at a local school and this tragic accident has affected many students in our community:

“The Sierra Sands Unified School District (SSUSD) crisis team will be on-site at the school the student attended to offer support to students, staff, and the broader school community. Trained professionals including counselors and other key team members will be available to assist those affected by this tragedy. Their presence aims to provide emotional support, resources, and guidance during this difficult time.”

Aaron Tucker, Acting Chief of Police  
PREPARED BY: Sergeant E. Hallmark