



For Immediate Release  
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## HPD Responds to Traffic Crash Involving Pedestrian

Harrisonburg, VA – On Wednesday, July 6, 2016 at approximately 11 a.m. officers with the Harrisonburg Police Department responded to a traffic crash involving a pedestrian at the intersection of South High Street and Maryland Avenue. Preliminary investigation has shown that a 24 year old male was skateboarding behind a 2005 Ford F-150 on Maryland Avenue that was attempting to make a right hand turn onto South High Street. Due to the speed of the skateboard, the male was unable to stop behind the truck before colliding into the passenger side, causing him to fall beneath the moving vehicle. The rear tire of the truck ran over the male pedestrian causing trauma to his head and chest regions. The male pedestrian has been identified as Kirkman Rountree of Harrisonburg. The driver of the vehicle involved was an off-duty Harrisonburg Police Officer, driving a personal vehicle, who immediately called 911 and began first aid on the male. It is the policy of the Harrisonburg Police Department not to release names of those involved in traffic crashes unless they are charged with an offense.

Subsequent to the crash, the male was transported to Sentara RMH and has since been transferred to UVA Medical Center with serious but non-life threatening injuries. Rountree has been charged with Careless Interference of Traffic by a Pedestrian in relation to this crash. Harrisonburg Police believe Rountree's injuries would have been more severe had he not been wearing a helmet.

Harrisonburg Police reminds pedestrians to always obey crosswalk signals and pedestrian laws. Additionally, we encourage bicyclists and skate boarders to always wear helmets when traveling on the roadway. Anyone who may have information about this crash or would like more insight into state and local pedestrian laws may contact HPD's Traffic Division at (540) 437-2650.

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