



# Tulare Police Department

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Press Release: 17-038

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## **Bicyclist Dies After Being Struck on Christmas Eve**

*\*\*The following information is based on a preliminary, ongoing investigation which continues to evolve as investigators interview witnesses, review physical and electronic records if available, and analyze forensic evidence. The Department's understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional evidence is collected and analyzed\*\**

December 24th, 2017

A Tulare man was hit by a semi-truck on Christmas Eve and died from his injuries. At around 8:30 PM Brandon Lane, 37 of Tulare, was riding his bicycle north bound on J St. north of Cross Ave. Lane traveled into the flow of traffic and a passing semi-truck struck him with the trailer. It's unknown why Lane moved into the traffic lane, but witnesses helped in describing the truck as it did not stop. Investigators are still looking into leads on the case.

This makes the 10<sup>th</sup> traffic related death that has been investigated this year. It's the second bicyclist hit within the last few weeks. On the 17<sup>th</sup> a bicyclist was struck while crossing Inyo Ave at A St. The bicyclist is expected to live, but has major injuries and a long road of recovery ahead.

The Tulare Police Department would like to remind the public to watch out for bicyclists and pedestrians, especially during the nighttime hours. The vehicle code actually requires a

motorist to give at least a three foot buffer when overtaking a bicyclist, 21760 VC, which gives an idea of what a safe passing distance would be.

For bicyclist they need to be aware that they are required to obey the same rules of the road as motorists. Most common violations bicyclists commit are not riding on the right side of the road and not stopping at stop signs. If you're riding during the dark, reflectors on the bike and an illuminated forward facing light are required, but a reflective, high-vis vest or reflective clothing will help motorists identify bicyclists and pedestrians.

Anyone with additional information regarding this incident is urged to call the Tulare Police Department at any of the following numbers:

- During business hours at (559) 684-4290;
- During non-business hours or on weekends at (559) 685-3454;
- Anonymously 24-hours a day (559) 685-2300 Ext: 4445
- Online at <https://www.tipsubmit.com/webtipstart.aspx>

## Contact Us

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency: (559) 685-2300 Ext: 3454

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