



Stanislaus Collision Kills Pregnant Mom

by *John Demas* on 04/04/11 at 1:49 pm

A violent collision Saturday morning on West Main Street in Patterson resulted in the tragic deaths of a pregnant woman and her unborn child. The woman was a passenger in a silver van that collided with a black Mercedes at approximately 6 a.m. on West Main Street just east of Jennings Road. Three other passenger in the van, including a young child, suffered major injuries and were transported to area hospitals.

Investigators believe the driver of the Mercedes was driving under the influence of alcohol. He was trapped in the vehicle briefly but was freed before his vehicle burst into flames. Authorities have not yet determined if he will face manslaughter charges.

When a DUI accident results in serious bodily injury or death, California law provides for felony charges against the offender. Despite these serious consequences, California Highway Patrol statistics indicate that in 2008 alone, there were 1,355 fatal collisions caused by drunk drivers. In some circles it remains socially acceptable to drive after drinking as long as you don't get caught. However, the price that is paid is far too high. Since some people don't seem to be getting the message, California should do more to prevent DUI related deaths, including stiffer penalties for all offenders, alcohol treatment programs, ignition locks, and programs like mandatory designated drivers.

Unfortunately, no matter how strong the laws against drunk driving, and no matter how strong public opinion seems to be against this type of conduct, some people simply cannot help themselves. As this collision illustrates, the results are devastating. The California Highway

Patrol Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System indicates that in 2008, there were 1,355 fatal collisions involving drunk drivers

All victims of **DUI accidents** should consult a reputable **Sacramento personal injury attorney**, who will conduct a thorough investigation of the collision and hold the offending driver accountable in the civil justice system for their actions.

Nothing is more devastating than losing a loved one, especially if it is unexpected and as the result of someone's negligence. The law provides that certain family members, usually a spouse, child or parent, have the right to recover compensation for certain losses if someone is liable for causing another person's death. These losses include both economic and non-economic damages. The most significant economic loss recoverable in a wrongful death claim is the loss of financial support and other benefits that the deceased would have provided in his or her lifetime to the person making the claim. Non-economic damages include the loss of love, support and companionship of the deceased person. Anyone who has lost a loved one as the result of another's negligence or carelessness is advised to contact an experienced **California Personal Injury Attorney** who will hire investigators and accident reconstruction experts to conduct a thorough investigation of the incident, advise the victim of all legal rights, and file a lawsuit if necessary to obtain fair compensation.

Persons injured by a DUI drive should also contact Sacramento auto accident attorney who can provide advice regarding a claim for damages, including recovery of medical expenses, lost wages and pain and suffering.

Contact Our Sacramento Personal Injury Attorneys

Anyone injured in a DUI collision is urged to consult with an experienced **Sacramento Personal Injury Attorney**. It is always important to act quickly so that all legal rights are protected. A knowledgeable **Sacramento Personal Injury Lawyer** will investigate the circumstances of the collision and evaluate the roadway for dangerous conditions that may have caused or contributed to this fatal accident.

*The **Demas & Rosenthal** personal injury law firm is not currently representing anyone mentioned in this article at the time it was posted. If you were involved in this incident or a similar incident and have questions as to your legal rights and options, call us or another well recognized and respected personal injury law firm. Please do not rely or act solely upon the*

*information provided in this article. Please consider getting a consultation immediately. The **best personal injury law firms** will provide a free consultation. **Demas & Rosenthal** will provide a free, confidential consultation to the persons who were not at fault named in this article.*