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Preliminary Report HWY22FH004

This is preliminary information, subject to change, and may contain errors. Any errors in this report will be corrected when the final report has been completed.

Multivehicle Collision at Signalized Intersection

North Las Vegas, Nevada
January 29, 2022

On Saturday, January 29, 2022, about 3:12 p.m. Pacific standard time, a 2018 Dodge Challenger passenger car, occupied by a 59-year-old driver and a 46-year-old passenger, was traveling north on North Commerce Street in North Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada. The Dodge was approaching the intersection with West Cheyenne Avenue at a recorded speed of 103 mph. The intersection is controlled by a traffic signal light, and the approach for both roadways include multiple lanes for through-traffic and for vehicles making turning maneuvers (figure 1). The Dodge entered the intersection against a red traffic signal, causing a multivehicle collision. Impact damage to the Dodge is shown in figure 2.

The collision also involved a 2013 Toyota Sienna minivan, a 2016 Hyundai Tucson sport utility vehicle (SUV), a 2005 Chevrolet Malibu sedan, a 2016 Ford Fusion sedan, and a 2021 Mercedes GLE-350 SUV. A total of 15 vehicle occupants were involved in the collision. Following the impact, the Dodge, Toyota, and Ford all came to rest off the roadway, in the northeastern corner of the intersection. The Chevrolet came to rest in the westbound lane of West Cheyenne Avenue. The Hyundai and the Mercedes SUVs drove to a stop nearby. As a result of the crash, the driver and passenger of the Dodge and all 7 occupants of the minivan died. The driver of the Ford Fusion was transported to the hospital.

North Commerce Street is a two-lane asphalt road with one southbound lane, one northbound lane, and a center turn lane, traveling through an industrial area. At the crash location, the roadway is straight with a slight upgrade as it approaches the intersection. Two 35-mph speed limit signs are posted on North Commerce Street in the crash area. West Cheyenne Avenue is a six-lane asphalt road with three westbound

lanes, three eastbound lanes, and center turn lanes that allow for turns onto North Commerce Street in the north or southbound directions. At the crash location, the roadway is straight and level. The speed limit on West Cheyenne Avenue in this area is 50 mph.



Figure 1. Intersection of North Commerce Street and West Cheyenne Avenue, looking west. (Source: North Las Vegas Police Department)

Assisting the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigation is the North Las Vegas Nevada Police Department, which is conducting a separate and parallel investigation.

The NTSB continues to collect data to analyze the crash dynamics, postmortem toxicology test results, and seat belt use. All aspects of the collision remain under investigation while the NTSB determines the probable cause, with the intent of issuing safety recommendations to prevent similar crashes.



Figure 2. Impact damage to the Dodge Challenger.