

Troopers Make DUI Arrest After Morning Commuter Collision

Local News

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VANCOUVER, Wash. - Troopers arrested a 24 year old Vancouver man on suspicion of DUI Wednesday morning after investigating a collision northbound Interstate 5. The collision occurred just after 8:00 AM north of the Interstate Bridge. Early morning commuters were delayed when the man's motorcycle lost control and struck the inside Jersey barrier. The driver was transported by ambulance to Legacy Emanuel Hospital with multiple broken bones. Troopers say Clifton Weese was driving a black, 2007 Suzuki LS 650 motorcycle northbound on Interstate 5 when he lost control. Weese was in the center lane when he suddenly moved to the left and began skidding down the large paved shoulder. The motorcycle struck the center concrete barrier, throwing Weese from the bike into a tree. The motorcycle traveled down the barrier a short distance before re-entering traffic and coming to rest in the center lane. Weese was found unconscious and lying in the paved median by a passing motorist. The motorist removed the downed motorcycle from traffic before troopers arrived. Weese was transported to Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland with multiple injuries. Troopers investigating the collision responded to the Hospital and determined Weese was DUI. Troopers say it was obvious Weese was under the influence of alcohol and admitted to consuming multiple drinks. Weese was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and a sample of his blood was taken for evidence with his consent. He suffered a compound fracture to his left leg, several fractures to his ribs and left arm, and damage to his kidneys during the collision.

Weese recently purchased the motorcycle and was wearing an approved Department of Transportation helmet. Washington State Department of Licensing requires all motorcycle drivers be endorsed to operate two and three wheel vehicles on the roadway. Weese was not endorsed to operate a motorcycle in Washington. Approximately 40% of motorcyclists killed in collisions are found to be under the influence of alcohol, more than with any other group of drivers. In addition, approximately 34% do not have a motorcycle endorsement. Troopers have been provided additional training in the detection of impaired motorcyclists and take a "no-tolerance" enforcement policy for operators without the proper license endorsement. For information on how to properly obtain a motorcycle endorsement on your driver's license, visit:

<http://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/motoendorsement.html>.