



**VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
*Jason Salazar, Chief of Police*

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**\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\***  
**October 16, 2016**

**VPD Report Number: Date/Time Occurred:**  
16-35996 10/16/16 @ 1011 hrs.

**Type of Incident: Location:**  
Injury Traffic collision Main Street at Conyer

**Involved Parties:**  
Robert Zielske, 69 years old from Visalia  
Curtis Rusko, 22 years old from Visalia  
Everett Hauser, 32 years old from Visalia  
Jeff Hust, 30 years old from Visalia  
Robert Richardson, 52 years old from Visalia  
Robert Howard, 84 years old from Visalia

**Details:**  
On the listed date and time, the Visalia Police Department responded to Main and Conyer for a report of a traffic collision. The investigation showed a 2013 Hyundai Sonata driven by I/P Zielske, was traveling S/B on Conyer when it struck a 2016 Ford E250 American Ambulance being driven by I/P Rusko, who was responding with lights and siren to Kaweah Delta Medical Center with a patient (Howard) in the back along with two Visalia Firefighters (Hust and Richardson), as well as an additional Paramedic (Hauser) all in the rear of the ambulance who were performing CPR on Howard prior to the collision. The collision caused the ambulance to overturn causing minor injuries to all involved parties. The patient (Howard) was transported by an additional ambulance to KDMC where he was later pronounced deceased.  
The investigation into the cause of this collision is continuing and being handled by the Visalia Police Traffic Unit.

**Investigating Officers: Supervisor:**  
VPD Traffic Unit Sgt. J. Andrews



