



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 16, 2009

CONTACT: CAPT. MARK WELCH
FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL
(850) 617-2301

FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL SEEKS ASSISTANCE IN CRASH INVESTIGATION

~ Thief stole from vulnerable crash victims ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Florida Highway Patrol is searching for a Good Samaritan who, troopers believe, may be able to help identify a thief. On July 4, 2009, a crash took place on Interstate 10 in Gadsden County, Fla., near the westbound on-ramp from US Highway 90. The crash involved a couple from Georgia. They were driving a white 1997 Ford pick-up truck that collided with a silver 2003 Toyota car and resulted in several injuries. A Good Samaritan stopped to assist the parties involved in the crash, and the Florida Highway Patrol believes he may have valuable information that will help troopers solve an investigation.

The Georgia couple had secured a large amount of cash from their business in a locked box. They believe someone stole the cash during the time that Emergency Medical Services tended to those involved in the crash. The couple reported the missing money to emergency workers prior to the Patrol's arrival to the crash scene. Troopers are hopeful that the Good Samaritan may be able to identify the thief.

Individuals at the crash scene described the Good Samaritan as a black male, 5'10" tall and 135-140 pounds with a dark complexion and gold teeth. He was last seen wearing purple pants, a white shirt and a blue hat. He is credited with providing aid to the injured before the arrival of E.M.S. workers and assisting them with identifying injured personnel.

FHP is asking anyone with any information regarding the Good Samaritan or the crash to call Chief Kevin Guidry with the Bureau of Investigations at (850) 617-2331.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov.

###