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SHERIFF-CORONER SANDRA HUTCHENS

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Driver Arrested for Vehicular Manslaughter for Driving Under the Influence of Prescription Drugs

MISSION VIEJO, California - (September 25, 2013) – On Friday, March 15, 2013, at approximately 6:48 p.m., Hasti Fakhrai-Bayrooti, 39, was involved in a fatal traffic collision involving bicyclist Eric Billings ,54. The investigation by the Major Accident Reconstruction Team (MART) of the Orange County Sheriff's Department revealed that Billings was riding his bicycle southbound on Santa Margarita Parkway south of El Toro Road when Bayrooti drifted into the bicycle lane fatally striking Billings.

Bayrooti was detained at the scene and a DUI investigation was conducted. She was released at the scene pending further investigation and results from the blood test. After blood results indicated the presence of prescription drugs, the investigation was forwarded to the Orange County District Attorney's office for filing.

The District Attorney's office reviewed the case and filed charges of CPC 191.5(b) Vehicular Manslaughter While Intoxicated. A warrant was obtained for Bayrooti's arrest with \$100,000 bail. She was arrested on Tuesday, September 24 at her residence in Irvine and booked into the IRC. Bayrooti posted bail on Wednesday, September 25 and was released from custody.

