



## PRESS RELEASE

I. DATE OF PRESS RELEASE: July 7, 2011

II. ANNOUNCEMENT:

Livermore Police to recognize community member with "**Saved By The Belt**" award after he is hit by a distracted driver.

III. FACTUAL INFORMATION:

On July 1, 2011, at approximately 4:20 p.m., the Livermore Police Department was advised of a broadside collision occurring N. Vasco Road at the intersection of Scenic Ave. When officers arrived on scene, they found that Jose Silva was driving his 2007 Toyota pickup eastbound on Scenic Avenue on a green light. The other driver was driving his Honda Civic southbound on N. Vasco Road approaching the intersection of Scenic Ave. The driver of the Honda dropped his cell phone and attempted to retrieve it off the floorboard. The driver of the Honda did not see that the traffic signal for southbound traffic was red and he ran the red light at approximately 35-40 MPH. The front of the Honda struck the side of Mr. Silva's Toyota causing the Toyota to roll over.

As a result of this collision Jose Silva had a complaint of pain to his shoulder, back and neck which required him to be transported to the hospital. The driver of the Honda also had a complaint of pain and was transported to a nearby hospital. Both were treated and eventually released from the hospital. Jose Silva had been properly wearing his lap/shoulder belt. The investigating officers believe that had he not been wearing his seatbelt he would have suffered major injuries or possibly have been ejected from the Toyota and killed.

The Livermore Police Department will be awarding Jose Silva with the "**Saved By The Belt**" award for properly wearing his seatbelt and avoiding serious injury or death. Statistics show that by wearing seatbelts, properly restrained drivers, passengers and children have a 50 percent better chance of surviving a crash than unbelted occupants. Those ejected from vehicles in crashes, or roll-overs, are up to 35 times more likely to die than restrained occupants.

Jose Silva will receive his "**Saved By The Belt**" award during a Press Conference at the Livermore Police Department on Tuesday, August 2, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the Livermore Police Department's community room located at 1110 S. Livermore Ave. **This Press Conference is not open to the public.**

We believe that it is important to recognize our community's drivers for buckling up properly and avoiding serious injuries. We also want to point out the importance of not driving while distracted, and encourage drivers to put their cell phone away while driving. If everyone would, "Hang up and Drive," we could reduce the number of collisions occurring in Livermore.

IV. CONTACT PERSON: Officer Traci Rebiejo  
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