

2. Why did it take deputy 20 minutes to arrive on scene from his dispatch location?

EBRSO- At 1:39 am EMS forwarded EBR SO what they listed as a 911 hangup. EBR SO made attempts to call the number back to no avail, and dispatched the deputy to a 911 hangup at 1:41.

A 911 hangup is not classified as an emergency call due to the frequency of unfounded cases. EBR SO received nearly 15,000 911 hangups in the past year, and only 26 of those calls were founded. For the safety of the deputy and community at large, deputies cannot justify the highest level emergency response to such hangups. In addition, 911 gives only general coordinates related to these calls (in many cases they are not entirely accurate). The deputy proceeded to the given area in search of the source of the 911 hangup. In many such cases, these calls occur from a moving vehicle, which continues moving on to another location.

In looking at LSP's report it was concluded the crashed vehicle was traveling 113 mph 2 seconds prior to impact, with no indication of braking. This resulted in the crash being located a distance off the roadway in the trees and difficult to spot. When the deputy did not locate the source of the 911 hangup, the call was listed as unfounded at 2:02 am.

****EXCERPT FROM OFFICIAL ACCIDENT REPORT****

It also showed that Vehicle 1 was traveling at a speed of about 97.6 miles per hour, approximately 5 seconds before the crash with the accelerator pedal at 100%. 2 seconds prior to the crash, the speed increased to about 113.1 mph. The accelerator pedal quickly dropped to 0%, 1 second prior to impact. At that time, the service brake was activated and the vehicle slowed to about 87.8 mph at final impact.

Upon exiting my vehicle, I observed a silver two-door Ford Mustang (Vehicle 1) off of the roadway on the westbound side of Nicholson Drive adjacent to the westbound lane of travel. Vehicle 1 was in a shallow ditch facing northwest at its final point of rest against some trees at the outer edge of a tree line. There was a

We understand that EMS (a separate agency) may have received another call with more information pertaining to a crash, however, this was not relayed to EBR SO. It appears that EMS dispatched life-saving services related to a crash at 1:56 and arrived on scene at 2:15.

NOTE - According to EBR SO records, the deputy was notified by dispatch @ 1:57 a.m. the call had been upgraded to crash with injuries.

The deputy, along with the fire department, did locate the crash at approximately 2:03. Unfortunately due to the high rate of speed upon impact we were told that extraction by hydraulics were required. As the deputy is not equipped nor trained for such measures, and as LSP handled the crash investigation, the deputy assisted with traffic diversion.

NOTE - According to EBR SO records, the deputy arrived on scene @ 2:01 a.m. & was the initial first responder on scene.

REPLY- Concerning the 20 minutes it took for the deputy to arrive at the scene: I was informed by EMS personnel that the information of the call being an automated crash notification was conveyed to EBR SO, along with the GPS coordinates. When I plug in the coordinates provided by EMS, the coordinates provide the exact location of the accident. I know this because I visited the scene of the accident on the day that it happened, and I have police photos from the scene. The coordinates were accurate. Because I have photos of the scene, I am aware that my son's vehicle was NOT difficult to spot as it was not that far off of the roadway as you claim. It was visible from the highway. Several bystanders were able to spot the accident as they noticed the shining taillights off the roadway and call 911, so I don't see how it was that difficult for the deputy to spot the accident if civilians were able to spot it.

As far as your deputy not being trained to extract a trapped occupant from a vehicle, it is my understanding that they are trained to check for signs of life in this type of situation. Deputy Walker specifically told me that he did NOT check for signs of life once he arrived on scene.