

PRESS RELEASE



City of Seal Beach
211 Eighth Street
Seal Beach, CA 90740

October 10, 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sergeant Nick Nicholas
(562) 799-4100 ext. 1160
nnicholas@sealbeachca.gov

SEAL BEACH POLICE OFFICER STRUCK BY SUSPECTED INTOXICATED DRIVER

SEAL BEACH, CA — A Seal Beach Police Officer is recovering after being struck by a suspected drunk driver.

On Saturday, October 10, 2020 at about 3:15 pm, a Seal Beach Police officer was conducting a traffic enforcement stop in the area of Pacific Coast Highway and Mariner Drive. During that time, the Seal Beach officer was standing near his parked patrol car when it was suddenly rear ended by an unrelated Ford F-150 traveling southbound on Pacific Coast Highway.

As a result of the collision, the Seal Beach officer was knocked to the ground and sustained moderate injuries. A passing Seal Beach Police volunteer witnessed the collision, immediately began to render aid, and radioed for assistance.

The F-150 lost control and collided with a nearby wall. The driver of the Ford fled the scene on foot. With the assistance of the Huntington Beach Police Department, the suspect was located a short distance away and taken into custody without further incident. The driver was uninjured.

The Seal Beach Police officer sustained moderate injuries and was transported via ambulance to a local hospital.

The California Highway Patrol responded and took over the investigation. The driver of the Ford, later identified as Kenneth Jacob Lopez, age 30, of Huntington Beach, was arrested by the CHP for felony hit and run and felony driving under the influence. He was later booked at the Orange County Jail.

This is an ongoing investigation. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact CHP Officer J. Billington at (714) 892-4426.

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