



CITY OF CLEARWATER

POST OFFICE BOX 4748, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33758-4748
CLEARWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT, 645 PIERCE STREET, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33756
TELEPHONE (727) 562-4242

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Contact: Elizabeth Watts

Public Safety PIO

elizabeth.watts@myclearwater.com

(727) 562-4333

OFFICER USES POLICE CRUISER TO STOP DRIVER AFTER HITTING TWO CARS

WHO: Miguel Costas (Driver w/medical emergency)
DOB: 2-26-53
Seminole, Fl. 33776
Vehicle 2: 1989 Dodge Aires K

Patricia Gieseke (Driver/Minor Injury/Refused Treatment)
DOB: 10-26-53
Vehicle: 1996 Nissan

Earl Ben Davis (Driver/No Injuries)
DOB: 9-17-50
Vehicle: 1995 Ford

Officer David Nugent
DOH: 1-6-97
Vehicle: 2010 Ford Crown Victoria

WHAT: Vehicle Crash/Medical Emergency

WHEN: December 5, 2010
6:46 p.m.

WHERE: US Highway 19 N & Enterprise Road

SUMMARY: Clearwater Police Officer David Nugent responded to a reported DUI driver traveling northbound on US Hwy 19. Ofc. Nugent located the vehicle and observed driving indicative to a person who may be impaired. Ofc. Nugent activated his emergency lights and siren to conduct a traffic stop. The driver then crashed into a car stopped at a red light on US 19 at





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Enterprise Road. The suspected DUI driver then started to travel in reverse hitting another stopped car at the same red light. After the second impact, the driver continued to travel in reverse against heavy northbound traffic.

Ofc. Nugent recognized the threat and decided he must take immediate action to prevent another crash and potential injury or even death. He used his patrol car to bring the other vehicle to a stop. He maneuvered and ultimately positioned his car in the vehicle's path as it continued to travel in reverse against traffic. The vehicle backed into Nugent's driver's side door and came to a stop. Officer Nugent sacrificed his own personal safety to keep other motorists safe.

During the crash investigation it was determined that the driver was in diabetic shock. His low blood sugar contributed to his actions. Investigators determined this was a medical emergency and not an impaired driver.

