



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Fire Chief Dave Whitt
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Lincoln, CA, Sept. 6, 2007 -- On September 5, 2007, at 3:26 p.m. the Lincoln Police Dispatch staff received multiple reports of a vehicle accident near the intersection of Highways 193 and 65 in downtown Lincoln. Initial 9-1-1 reports indicated that a passenger car and a semi-truck were involved with the car being crushed. The Lincoln Fire Department arrived to find a 25-year-old female driver inside the crushed car with bystanders working feverishly to remove gravel that had dumped on top of the victim.

The semi-truck was traveling northbound on Highway 65 and turned eastbound on Highway 193 when it struck at least two vehicles before coming to rest with one trailer on its side. The victim was buried and pinned when the semi-truck's rear trailer flipped over and dumped its load of gravel on her car. Bystanders were in the process of removing the gravel from around the victim's head by hand which gave the victim enough space to breathe. Without their initial actions, the outcome for the victim might not have been as positive. The driver of the semi and the other vehicle were not injured.

Firefighters used hydraulic tools and cutters to work carefully to clear gravel and the crushed car away from the victim. The rescue took over 35 minutes before she was transported to Sutter Roseville Trauma Center by helicopter.

The response to the emergency included one engine from the Lincoln Fire Department, one engine from CalFire, Rescue Task Force 7 from Roseville Fire Department, American Medical Response, CalSTAR helicopter, the Lincoln Police Department, Rock Police Department and California Highway Patrol. Representatives from Lincoln Public Works Department assisted with traffic control measures and cleanup. Total personnel on the scene included 16 firefighters, 12 law enforcement officers, 10 ambulance personnel, and four Public Works employees. That section of Highway 193 was closed for over four hours.

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