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MEDIA RELEASE

**Contact: Lt. Timothy O'Malley
Concord Police Department
603-225-8600**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 1, 2016

Hit and Run Accident

(CPD# 16-32617-OF)

(Concord, NH)- The Concord Police Department is asking for assistance from the community in solving a hit-and-run accident that occurred on the morning of Saturday, August 27, 2016, on North State Street just south of Swenson Granite, in Concord, NH.

At approximately 11:04 AM, Concord Police Officers were dispatched to the area of 369 N. State Street for a bicyclist struck by a car. Concord Fire Department was the first to arrive, and treated a 65-year-old male bicyclist for minor injuries related to the accident. The victim was alert and conscious and stated that he had been struck from behind by what appeared to be a maroon SUV or minivan. The victim stated that he was riding southbound in the center of the bike lane, well outside of the vehicle lane, and was struck in the rear tire without warning. The victim stated that after hitting the ground, he looked up and saw the vehicle continue traveling southbound without stopping. The bicycle sustained heavy damage consistent with vehicle impact. The victim was wearing a helmet at the time of the crash, which was also heavily damaged. The victim suffered multiple abrasions and complained of chest pain, but was not admitted to the hospital.

Multiple concerned citizens did stop to help the victim. An eyewitness corroborated the account of the victim and stated that she was traveling behind a maroon SUV or caravan that was noticeably drifting into the bike lane prior to the accident. She stated that the vehicle then suddenly swerved left, at which point she saw the victim and his bicycle on the ground and stopped to help.

A canvass of the area was done for matching vehicles, with none found in the immediate area.

It is not known if there were any contributing factors to the driver's actions (ie. distractions, health issues, texting, etc.). The accident took place in broad daylight in dry conditions, with normal weekend traffic. By all accounts, the victim is an experienced bicyclist who was obeying all traffic laws and properly riding in the bicycle lane at the time he was struck.

This incident remains under investigation and Concord Police are asking any and all witnesses to contact them at 603-225-8600. If you have any information regarding the person driving the vehicle involved, please contact investigators or the Concord Regional Crimeline at (603) 226-3100, submit a tip at www.concordregionalcrimeline.com or Txt **TIP234** to CRIMES (274637).

In addition, Concord PD is reminding all drivers to be aware of cyclists, runners, and pedestrians while operating on city streets. Although it is not known at this time if texting was involved, we issue a general reminder to all drivers that it is illegal to use handheld devices while operating a vehicle.