

JOPLIN

POLICE

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Lane Roberts
Chief of Police

Date: March 11, 2013
Origin: Department PIO
Contact: Lt. Brian Lewis
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Officers Involved in injury accident

Two officers working a plain clothes detail in an unmarked vehicle Friday were involved in an injury accident. On Friday March 8, at approximately 2:40 PM, two Joplin Police officers travelling westbound on 7th street collided with a motorist attempting a left turn onto Florida.

A white 2003 Isuzu Rodeo, driven by Jessika Richardson, age 21, of Joplin, was in the east bound turn lane at the intersection of 7th and Florida. Richardson attempted a left turn north onto Florida, when the vehicle she was driving was struck by a white 2003 Chevy Avalanche, driven by Officer Justin Barnett. Barnett was travelling westbound in the inside lane of 7th street. The sign for east and west bound traffic was green at the time of the collision.

Richardson was transported to a local hospital from the scene with serious injuries. Officer Barnett, and a passenger, Sgt. Chad Allison received minor injuries and were not transported.

The Joplin Police Department crash reconstruction team responded to the scene and will be conducting a reconstruction on the accident.
