

Austin traffic victim's estate files lawsuit to recover damages from driver

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The estate of Manuel Davis, the Austin resident who died when he was struck by a car while cycling on U.S. Highway 31 on December 18, 2013, has filed a lawsuit for damages against that driver.

Davis, 52, died of head injuries at the scene of the accident that involved a Ford Escape being driven by William Raichel Jr., also of Austin.

Davis was apparently on the bike in the middle of the outside southbound lane on U.S. 31 when he was struck by Raichel Jr. According to the accident report prepared by Capt Paul Clute with the Austin Police Department, Raichel said he did not see the man because of sun glare.

The accident happened opposite of the old American Can building shortly after 8 a.m.

Criminal charges were not filed against the driver.

The lawsuit, filed August 5 in Scott Circuit Court, cited loss of love and companionship by Davis' mother, Dorothy, the administrator of his estate. It also requested damages for her loss and costs.

No hearing dates or jury trial date have yet been scheduled.