

# Driver admitted smoking pot before deadly Hwy. 281 crash

April 28 2015

SAN ANTONIO - Two people were killed and three more were seriously hurt in a head-on collision on the city's North Side late Monday night.

The wreck happened at Highway 281 and Sonterra Boulevard at about 11p.m.

Investigators say the driver of a red Lexus was speeding southbound on 281 when he lost control and veered off the road. The car broke through the center cable, then traveled into the northbound lanes where it struck a silver Toyota. The impact split the Lexus in half.

Two male passengers inside the Lexus died at the scene. They have not been identified.

The driver - identified by SAPD as 19-year-old Christopher Paul Marchini (*pictured*) - was taken by paramedics in critical condition.

According to investigators, Marchini admitted at the scene he had smoked marijuana, but denied drinking any alcohol. He has since been charged with two counts of intoxication manslaughter and two counts of intoxication assault.

The driver and passenger in the silver car were also hurt. The victims in the silver car were flown by helicopter to University Hospital in critical condition.

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Crews shut down Highway 281 for a while to clear the debris, but was reopened early Tuesday morning.