

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR H. SMITH
(Eyewitness to accident)**

[Note: Do not let anyone see these instructions.]

1. Case Summary

This case involves a fatal accident that occurred in the dry riverbed of the Ronson River in Springdale on October 1, [-1]. The deceased, Ash Johnson, was riding his/her motorcycle in the riverbed when the motorcycle hit a large rock. Johnson was ejected from the motorcycle, landing face down in the riverbed, breaking his/her neck. You witnessed the accident.

2. Personal Background

[Feel free to develop any realistic personal background.]

3. Your story

You were walking your dog by the Ronson River on October 1, [-1] in mid-afternoon, as you do every day. The river is dry most of the year, and in October the riverbed was dry. That day it was hot and dry. The riverbed is over 100' wide, and the riverbed is composed of loose gravel, sand, and shrubs. The riverbed is a popular place for motorcyclists, who like to run their bikes there. You think the riverbed is county property, but there are no signs by the river regulating use of the riverbed or barring any activities.

Around 3:00 pm on October 1, [-1], you were standing on the north bank of the Ronson River about 1/8 mile east of the Campbell Avenue bridge. There was only one motorcycle rider in the wash near you. He/She looked like a young man/woman in his/her 20's and was dressed in blue jeans and a tee shirt and wore a dark-colored helmet. You were perhaps 100' – 150' away. The rider looked like he/she was practicing quick starts and wheelies. You watched him/her, since there was nothing else going on.

Around 3:00 pm, the cyclist was doing another power start, going east bound from standing still to going around 25 mph. Suddenly, the motorcycle hit a big rock or other object and stopped dead. The rider was ejected over the handlebars and fell face first into the loose gravel. He/She lay there motionless, face down.

You thought the rider may be hurt, perhaps seriously, so you called 911 and reported what had happened. You then walked to the rider but did not move or touch him/her.

A deputy county sheriff arrived first, followed soon after by the ambulance. The EMTs checked the rider for injuries and vital signs, then put the rider on a stretcher and drove off.

After the ambulance left, the deputy sheriff interviewed you about what you had seen and done. You could also see that the cycle was a Honda 300 cc street bike. That seemed a bit unusual. Most of the bikes in the riverbed at that spot are off road or dirt bikes, which are different from street bikes; they have different frames, wheels, and suspensions. Most of the riders at that spot wear special protective clothing. Finally, the rider was wearing an open-face helmet from Best Helmets. Most of the riders at that spot wear full-face helmets.

You have a good memory of this event, since it appeared this rider was seriously injured.

4. Documents

You have seen, and are familiar with, the documents attached to these instructions. If there is a circumstance where, while you are staying in character, you would show one of the documents below to an attorney, you can do so, but you cannot show any attorney this set of instructions.

5. Instructions on Role Playing

In role-playing H. Smith, please stay “in character” at all times.



