

Corzine's SUV doing 91 at time of crash

by UPI

TRENTON, N.J. - Gov. Jon Corzine's SUV was traveling at 91 mph, well above the speed limit, when it crashed, the New Jersey State Police said Tuesday.

The governor remained hospitalized with severe injuries.

State Police Superintendent Rick Fuentes said in a statement that a review board will consider whether the governor's driver, Trooper Robert Rasinski, was driving too fast, the Star-Ledger of Newark reported. Corzine reportedly had not asked the trooper to go that fast on a section of the Garden State Parkway where the speed limit is 65 mph.

"Speed is always a contributing factor in any accident," Fuentes said in a press conference call. "It goes to the heart of what damage you may have on a vehicle. But you need to put speed in a context of whether there was reason."

Rasinski has been on medical leave since the crash.

Corzine, the only person seriously injured, was not wearing a seat belt when Rasinski veered to avoid another vehicle and hit a guardrail. The governor was traveling from Atlantic City to the governor's mansion in Princeton for a meeting with Don Imus and the Rutgers women's basketball team.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Corzine's SUV doing 91 at time of crash by UPI