

26 Struck by ---Inspection #1316665 Superior Traffic Control LLC

A **34 year old male** was fatally injured when he was **struck by** a tractor trailer after it hit the concrete barrier wall, flipped on its side and slid into the victim while he was standing beside his company truck.

The ongoing task at the time of the incident was the temporary traffic control zone for a road paving job being conducted on the southbound side of Tennessee State Route 111. The traffic control project was being conducted by a crew consisting of three employees. The employees were responsible for arriving early in the morning to set up a temporary traffic control zone, maintaining the placement of all signs and cones throughout the work day, and removing the temporary traffic control zone at the end of the work day. The job had been ongoing for approximately three weeks. Approximately every twenty to thirty minutes the employees would drive the entire zone in their work truck to ensure that all of the warning signs cones, and barrels were still positioned as required.

Just prior to the incident the three employees had been taking a break inside of the company pickup truck. Two employees were sitting inside the truck cab and the other employee had been sitting on the cage connected to the back of the truck. The truck was parked on the shoulder of the road on the outside of the lane that was closed off to traffic. The employees' break was almost over, and they were getting ready to drive through the traffic control zone to check on the cones, barrels, and traffic signs. The employee that was sitting on the cage on the back of the truck walked up to the driver's side and stood there talking to the others for a one minute when he looked up, screamed, then attempted to run away, and only made it to the front fender of their pickup truck when he was struck by the tractor trailer.

The driver entered the temporary traffic control zone and realized that he had lost control of his truck. The driver knew that there was a runaway truck ramp up ahead and attempted to access this ramp. However, the paving machine was working on this section of the road at this time.

The temporary traffic control zone had been set up properly for the road paving task that was ongoing at the time of the incident. Warning and speed limit signs had been placed one half mile out from the beginning from the transition area. "Uneven Pavement" signs had also been placed throughout the various zones. The temporary traffic control zone consisted of an advanced warning area, a transition area, an activity area and a termination area.

26 Struck by ---Inspection #1316665 Superior Traffic Control LLC

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

No citations recommended as a result of this inspection.

This photo shows the incident scene. The orange lines were painted by the Tennessee Highway Patrol and show the path the vehicle traveled after striking the concrete barrier in the middle of the highway and tipping onto its passenger side. Vehicle recovery and road cleaning operations were already underway when the CSHO arrived on scene.

