



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: November 2, 2016

In reply refer to: H-16-12

Mr. Gregory Thomas
Secretary
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
200 Mero St.
Frankfort, KY 40622

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation—railroad, highway, marine, and pipeline. The NTSB determines the probable cause of the accidents and issues safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. In addition, we carry out special studies concerning transportation safety and coordinate the resources of the federal government and other organizations to provide assistance to victims and their family members affected by major transportation disasters. We are providing the following information to urge the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to take action on the safety recommendation being issued in this letter.

On June 25, 2015, about 7:10 p.m., a 2007 Peterbilt truck-tractor in combination with a 2005 Great Dane semitrailer, operated by Cool Runnings Express, Inc., was traveling northbound on Interstate 75, near Chattanooga, Tennessee, when it struck the rear of a 2010 Toyota Prius at an estimated speed of 78–82 mph.¹ Traffic had slowed because of road construction and a work zone lane closure at milepost 12. The truck-tractor continued forward and collided with seven additional vehicles, forcing them into subsequent collisions. Of the 18 vehicle occupants, six died and four were injured. A postcrash fire consumed one vehicle. The truck driver was returning to the carrier terminal in London, Kentucky, having begun his trip about 5:16 a.m. in Haines City, Florida. Additional information about this crash and the resulting recommendations may be found at our website, www.nts.gov, under report number NTSB/HAR-16/01.

As a result of this investigation, we issued seven new recommendations, including four to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, two to the Tennessee Department of

¹ See *Multivehicle Work Zone Crash on Interstate 75, Chattanooga, Tennessee, June 25, 2015*, Highway Accident Report NTSB/HAR-16/01 (Washington, DC: NTSB, 2016).

Transportation and the Tennessee Highway Patrol, and the following recommendation to the Idaho Transportation Department and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet:

H-16-12

Include driver status, license expiration, driving restrictions, violations, and crashes in the 3-year driver motor vehicle record.

As a result of this investigation, we also reiterated one previously issued recommendation to the Federal Highway Administration, and reiterated and reclassified one recommendation to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

This safety recommendation is derived from the NTSB's investigation and is consistent with the evidence we found and the analysis we performed. Chairman HART, Vice Chairman DINH-ZARR, and Members SUMWALT and WEENER concurred in this recommendation.

The NTSB is vitally interested in this recommendation because it is designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement it. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendation by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

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Date: November 2, 2016

In reply refer to: H-16-12

Mr. Brian Ness
Director
Idaho Transportation Department
3311 W. State St.
Boise, ID 83707-1129

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As a result of this investigation, we issued seven new recommendations, including four to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, two to the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the Tennessee Highway Patrol, and the following recommendation to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the Idaho Transportation Department:

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[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman