



Pennsylvania State Police

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Update: PSP Announces Name of Trooper Struck and Killed on Interstate 81



Frackville, PA – Governor Josh Shapiro and Pennsylvania State Police Lt. Col. George Bivens, Acting Commissioner, identified the fallen Trooper as Michael E. Pahira, Jr., a native of Schuylkill County. Trooper Pahira enlisted in the PSP in January of 2007 and was assigned to Troop L, Frackville, as a Motor Carrier Inspector.

Trooper Pahira was conducting a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) inspection along I-81 Southbound near Mile Marker 119.3. Trooper Pahira was outside his vehicle, standing in the vicinity of the cab of the CMV, actively engaged in the inspection. The CMV was stationary on the right shoulder of the highway. Trooper Pahira's marked patrol unit had its emergency lighting activated and was positioned directly behind the CMV.

A second CMV was also traveling southbound on I-81 and approached the location. The second CMV left the roadway and struck the patrol unit's side view mirror. It then impacted the rear of the CMV, which was being inspected, pushing it further off the

roadway. The second CMV then struck Trooper Pahira. Both CMVs caught on fire after impact. Trooper Pahira was seriously injured and was transported to a local hospital, where he was pronounced deceased.

Operator #1 was injured and is currently being medically treated. Operator #3 was not injured. The investigation remains active.

Trooper Pahira was 44 years old and is the 106th member of the Pennsylvania State Police to die in the line of duty.

Today's press conference is available on PAcast: <https://pacast.com/m?p=29678>

PSP Trooper Fatally Struck by Vehicle on Interstate 81 in Schuylkill County

Frackville, PA – A **Pennsylvania State Police (PSP)** Trooper assigned to Troop L, Frackville, was conducting a commercial vehicle safety inspection this morning at approximately 7:00 AM along Interstate 81 South, Mile Marker 119 in Cass Township, Schuylkill County.

While inspecting the commercial motor vehicle, the Trooper was struck by Unit 1, a passing commercial vehicle. After striking the Trooper, Unit 1 struck the commercial motor vehicle that was being inspected. Unit 1 subsequently caught fire.

The Operator of Unit 1 was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

The Trooper, whose name will be released at a later time, succumbed to his injuries.

Interstate 81 South remains closed as the investigation continues.

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