



# Pennsylvania State Police

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 22, 2026**

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## **Fatal Electrocuting Investigation**

The Pennsylvania State Police, Pennsylvania State Police Uniontown Station, is investigating a accidental fatal electrocution that occurred in Dunbar Township, Fayette County.

On May 22, 2026, at approximately 7:12 a.m., Troopers were notified of a deceased male located near 327 Laurel Hill Road in Dunbar Township. The individual was identified as Aaron Christopher Cottrell, 32, of New Salem, Pennsylvania.

The investigation revealed Cottrell was found with a pole saw and a backpack, and it appeared he had been attempting to obtain wire from active electrical lines when he was electrocuted. Cottrell was pronounced deceased at the scene by the Fayette County Coroner's Office.

The Pennsylvania State Police would like to remind the public that tampering with or attempting to remove wire from active electrical infrastructure is extremely dangerous and can result in serious injury or death. High-voltage electrical lines can always remain energized and should never be approached or handled by unauthorized individuals.

The investigation remains ongoing.

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