



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

November 9th, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(UPDATE)

SUBJECT: Train vs. Tractor Trailer Collision - Driver in Critical Condition

The Newark Police Department Traffic Division is continuing their investigation into a traffic collision involving a CSX Freight Train and a Tractor Trailer which occurred shortly before 2:00pm on November 9th.

The preliminary investigation has determined that the driver of the tractor trailer was making a delivery at a restaurant on West Main Street just east of the rail crossing. The truck and trailer were parked on the sidewalk just east of the crossing. The driver had just entered into the tractor trailer after making the delivery when the train signal crossings activated due to an approaching westbound CSX freight train. At that time the crossing arms lowered onto the trailer. The driver attempted to drive the truck forward and away from the crossing, however, as the tractor entered onto the railroad tracks it was struck on the passenger side of the cab by the front of the freight train.

As a result of the collision, the driver of the tractor trailer was trapped inside the vehicle for approximately twenty minutes while rescue personnel from the New Castle County Paramedics and Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder extricated him from the vehicle.

The truck driver has been identified as 42 year old Joseph C. Mounts of Felton, DE. He was transported to Christiana Hospital for head and internal injuries and is currently listed in critical condition.

The roadway and rail crossing were opened back up for traffic at approximately 5:30pm. Motorists are urged to use caution as they pass through the area as CSX personnel make repairs to a crossing signal damaged during the collision.

The investigation into this collision is ongoing. Anyone with additional information about this incident should contact Corporal Thomas Smith at 302-366-7110 ext. 450 or thomas.smith@cj.state.de.us You can send an anonymous text message tip by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.tipsubmit.com where a reward may be available.

The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us.



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