

# **\*\*Traffic Advisory\*\* – Troopers Investigating Tractor-Trailer Crash – Update**

**Presented by Public Information Officer Master  
Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale**

***New Castle-*** The left hand lane of northbound I-95 at I-295 has been re-opened to traffic. All other northbound lanes remain closed at this time and commuters are still being asked to find alternate routes of travel.

The investigation into this crash is continuing at this time.

Released: 090816 1130

-End-

**\*\*Original Release\*\***

**Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale**

***New Castle-*** Delaware State Police are currently at the scene of a single vehicle crash involving a tractor-trailer that occurred early this morning.

The initial investigation has determined that the crash occurred at approximately 1:53 a.m. this morning, Thursday, September 8, 2016, on I-95 northbound at the I-295 eastbound split and involves a tractor-trailer which has overturned. The male operator of the tractor trailer has suffered minor injuries and is currently being assessed at the scene.

As a result of the crash, all lanes of I-95 northbound have

been closed and traffic is being diverted off of the highway and onto the ramp to DE Rt. 141 (Basin Road) southbound. Commuters are asked to find alternate routes of travel as the roadway is expected to be closed for an extended period of time.

This crash remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police. Further updates will be released as they are received.

Released: 090816 0240

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# **Troopers Seek Public's Assistance in Identifying Robbery Suspect – Update**

**Presented by Public Information Office Master  
Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale**

*Wilmington, DE* – Delaware State Police Robbery Unit detectives have positively identified the suspect wanted in connection with several robberies of local businesses which had occurred this past June.

Through tips from the public and other investigative means, detectives identified Leo N. Watson, 44, of Newark, as the suspect who committed the robberies of two Wilmington area businesses and the attempted robbery of another from June 1, 2016 – June 5, 2016. In each incident, the suspect would enter the targeted business and confront a store employee, implying that he was armed. He would then demand money and cigarettes

before fleeing from the store. There were no injuries in any of the incidents and no weapon was ever displayed.

Leo Watson is described as being 5'08" tall, weighs 270 lbs., and has black hair and brown eyes.

Detectives have linked Watson to the following robberies:

- Valero, 1327 McKennan's Church Road, Wilmington, Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 1:54 a.m. (Attempt Only)
- Exxon, 5301 Concord Pike, Wilmington, Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 2:50 a.m.
- Exxon, 5301 Concord Pike, Wilmington, Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 11:21 p.m.
- Dollar Tree, 2099 Philadelphia Pike, Wilmington, Sunday, June 5, 2016 at 9:06 p.m.

If anyone has any information as to the location of Leo Watson, they are asked to contact Detective Steven Rizzo at 302-365-8440. Information may also be provided by calling [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at [www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com](http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com), or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

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Released: 090816 1115

-End-

**\*\*Original Release\*\***

**Presented by Public Information Office Master  
Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale**

**Wilmington, DE-** Delaware State Police Robbery Unit detectives are seeking the public's help in identifying the suspect who robbed three area gas stations in a two day period earlier this month.

In each incident, the suspect would enter the targeted business and confront a store employee, implying that he was armed. He would then demand money and cigarettes before fleeing from the store. There were no injuries in any of the incidents and no weapon was ever displayed.

The pictured suspect is described as a black male. He was 20-40 years of age, 5'06"-5'10" tall, with a large build.

Detectives have linked the suspect to the following robberies:

- Valero, 1327 McKennan's Church Road, Wilmington, Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 1:54 a.m.
- Exxon, 5301 Concord Pike, Wilmington, Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 2:50 a.m.
- Exxon, 5301 Concord Pike, Wilmington, Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 11:21 p.m.

If anyone has any information in reference to these incidents they are asked to contact Detective Steven Rizzo at 302-365-8440. Information may also be provided by calling [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at [www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com](http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com), or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

Released: 061316 1455

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# Troopers Investigating Crash Involving Overturned Truck – Update #2

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale

**Newark, DE-** Delaware State Police investigated a crash involving an overturned truck that occurred yesterday morning in Newark.

The investigation has determined that the crash occurred on Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at approximately 8:05 a.m., as Jeremy Ryan, 25, of Centreville, VA, was operating a 2012 Freightliner tractor and trailer and was traveling in the center lane of northbound I-95 approaching DE Rt. 896 (South College Avenue), Newark. Ryan then made an abrupt lane change into the right center lane of the highway and entered the path of a 2004 Mack dump truck which was being operated by Mark Evans, 51, of Hereford, PA. Evans attempted to avoid striking the tractor-trailer by swerving into the right hand lane of the highway, however, the left hand side of the dump truck struck the right hand side of the tractor trailer. The dump truck then exited the highway and drove onto the off-ramp to DE Rt. 896 where it then overturned onto its left side. Jeremy Ryan was able to bring his vehicle to a controlled stop on the Rt. 896 ramp.

Mark Evans was trapped in his vehicle for a period of time until he could be extricated by responding emergency personnel. He was treated at the scene by New Castle County Paramedics before being flown by Delaware State Police Aviation (Trooper 4) to the Christiana Hospital where he was treated for his serious injuries. There were no other injuries.

Jeremy Ryan was cited by troopers for making an unsafe lane change.

All northbound lanes of I-95 were closed for approximately 1.5 hours before being re-opened, however the off-ramp to DE Rt. 896 remained closed for some time.

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Released: 090816 0905

-End-

**\*\*Original Releases\*\***

**Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale**

**Newark, DE-** All lanes of northbound Interstate 95 at DE Rt. 896, Newark, have been re-opened. However the I-95 northbound ramp to DE Rt. 896 remains closed. Commuters should expect heavy traffic in the area.

This crash remains under investigation.

Released: 090716 0922

-End-

**\*\*Original Release\*\***

**Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale**

**Newark, DE** – Delaware State Police are currently investigating a single vehicle crash involving an overturned dump truck that occurred this morning.

The initial investigation has determined that the crash occurred this morning, Wednesday, September 07, 2016 at approximately 8:05 a.m., on I-95 northbound at the ramp to DE Rt. 896 (South College Avenue), Newark. Emergency responders are currently at the scene attempting to extricate the male operator of the dump truck.

As a result of the crash, I-95 northbound will be closed at the ramp to DE Rt. 896 for an undetermined amount of time. Commuters are asked to find alternate routes of travel.

The investigation into this crash is in its early stages. More information will be released as it is received.

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Released: 090716 0845

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# **\*\*Traffic Advisory\*\* - Troopers Investigating Tractor-Trailer Crash**

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale

**New Castle-** Delaware State Police are currently at the scene of a single vehicle crash involving a tractor-trailer that

occurred early this morning.

The initial investigation has determined that the crash occurred at approximately 1:53 a.m. this morning, Thursday, September 8, 2016, on I-95 northbound at the I-295 eastbound split and involves a tractor-trailer which has overturned. The male operator of the tractor trailer has suffered minor injuries and is currently being assessed at the scene.

As a result of the crash, all lanes of I-95 northbound have been closed and traffic is being diverted off of the highway and onto the ramp to DE Rt. 141 (Basin Road) southbound. Commuters are asked to find alternate routes of travel as the roadway is expected to be closed for an extended period of time.

This crash remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police. Further updates will be released as they are received.

Released: 090816 0240

-End-

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# **Troopers Investigate Attempted Robbery of Bear Pharmacy**

**Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale**

**Bear, DE-** Delaware State Police are investigating the attempted robbery of a Bear area pharmacy that occurred yesterday afternoon.

The initial investigation has determined that the incident occurred on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at approximately 2:30 p.m., as a male suspect entered the Rite Aid, located at 1999 Pulaski Highway, Bear. The suspect, who was last seen wearing a white long sleeved t-shirt, black sweatpants, a black hat, and had a mask covering his face, was immediately confronted by a store security guard. The suspect then exited the store and fled to a dark colored passenger car. The vehicle, which was being operated by a second subject, then exited the parking lot and fled in a northbound direction on DE Rt. 72. There were no injuries.

The suspect was further described as an Hispanic male 20-30 years of age. No further physical or clothing description for the suspect is available. No video surveillance photos are available to be released at this time.

If anyone has any information in reference to this incident they are asked to contact the Robbery Unit at Troop 2 at 302-365-8566. Information may also be provided by calling [Delaware Crime Stoppers](http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com) at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at [www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com](http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com), or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

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Released: 090716 0950

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# Troopers Investigating Crash Involving Overturned Truck

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale

*Newark, DE-* All lanes of northbound Interstate 95 at DE Rt. 896, Newark, have been re-opened. However the I-95 northbound ramp to DE Rt. 896 remains closed. Commuters should expect heavy traffic in the area.

This crash remains under investigation.

Released: 090716 0922

-End-

**\*\*Original Release\*\***

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale

*Newark, DE* – Delaware State Police are currently investigating a single vehicle crash involving an overturned dump truck that occurred this morning.

The initial investigation has determined that the crash occurred this morning, Wednesday, September 07, 2016 at approximately 8:05 a.m., on I-95 northbound at the ramp to DE Rt. 896 (South College Avenue), Newark. Emergency responders are currently at the scene attempting to extricate the male operator of the dump truck.

As a result of the crash, I-95 northbound will be closed at the ramp to DE Rt. 896 for an undetermined amount of time. Commuters are asked to find alternate routes of travel.

The investigation into this crash is in its early stages. More

information will be released as it is received.

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Released: 090716 0845

-End-

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# Troopers Investigating Fatal Pedestrian Crash – I95, Newark

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale

**Newark** – The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit has positively identified the female pedestrian who was struck and killed on I-95 in Newark on Friday, September 2, 2016, as Cheryl P. Stover, 49, of Brooklyn, NY.

This crash remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit.

Released: 090716 0910

-End-

**\*\*Original Releases\*\***

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary

## Fournier

**Newark-** The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is currently investigating a fatal crash involving a pedestrian on I95 that occurred early last evening.

Preliminary investigation indicates the incident occurred around 7:52 p.m. Friday September 2, 2016 as Melinda Rodriguez, 26 of Patterson, New York, was operating a 2004 Toyota Corolla southbound on Interstate 95 in the left center lane approximately one mile south of the service area. Lenny Crosland, 47 of Newark, DE, was operating a 2010 Mercury Mountaineer southbound on I95 directly behind the Corolla. A pedestrian, who was wearing dark colored clothing, was attempting to cross I95 from west to east and entered into the path of the Toyota. Rodriguez slammed on her brakes in an attempt to avoid colliding with the female pedestrian just as the Mountaineer struck the rear of the Corolla and pushed her forward into the female pedestrian. The pedestrian was then struck by several other unknown vehicles and pronounced dead at the scene.

The female pedestrian was removed from the scene by the Delaware Division of Forensic Science to determine her identification.

Melinda Rodriguez, who was properly restrained, was transported by EMS to Christiana Medical Center where she was treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

Lenny Crosland along with a female passenger, were both properly restrained and uninjured in the crash.

The Collision Reconstruction Unit is continuing their investigation into this incident. Drugs and alcohol were not a contributing factor on behalf of either driver. I95 southbound between Exit 1 and Exit 3 was reduced to one lane for approximately three hours while the crash was investigated and cleared.

Released: 090316 0650

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**\*\*Original Release\*\***

**\*\*Traffic Advisory\*\* Troopers Investigating Fatal Pedestrian Crash – I95, Newark**

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier

**Newark-** The Delaware State Police are currently on the scene of a fatal motor vehicle crash on I95 southbound between SR273 and Exit 1 that occurred around 7:52 p.m. this evening.

Preliminary investigation indicates the incident involves a pedestrian that has died as a result of the crash. The State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is currently enroute to the scene and will assume the investigation.

I95 southbound, north of Exit 1 currently has one lane open. Commuters are advised to seek alternate routes of travel.

**Further details will be released upon the conclusion of the investigation.**

Released: 090216 2025

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# **Troopers Investigating Crash**

# Involving Overturned Truck

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale

*Newark, DE* – Delaware State Police are currently investigating a single vehicle crash involving an overturned dump truck that occurred this morning.

The initial investigation has determined that the crash occurred this morning, Wednesday, September 07, 2016 at approximately 8:05 a.m., on I-95 northbound at the ramp to DE Rt. 896 (South College Avenue), Newark. Emergency responders are currently at the scene attempting to extricate the male operator of the dump truck.

As a result of the crash, I-95 northbound will be closed at the ramp to DE Rt. 896 for an undetermined amount of time. Commuters are asked to find alternate routes of travel.

The investigation into this crash is in its early stages. More information will be released as it is received.

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Released: 090716 0845

-End-

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# Troopers Investigate Gas Station Robbery

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale

*Bear, DE-* Delaware State Police are currently investigating the armed robbery of a Bear area gas station that occurred yesterday evening.

The initial investigation has determined that the incident occurred on Monday, September 5, 2016 at approximately 7:50 p.m., as a male suspect entered the Shell fuel station, located at 841 Pulaski Highway, Bear. The suspect, who was armed with an unknown type of cutting instrument, confronted a female clerk and demanded money from the cash register. The clerk complied with the suspect's demands and turned over an undisclosed amount of money to him. The suspect then exited the store and was last seen fleeing on foot in an eastbound direction. There were no injuries.

The suspect was described as a white male. He was 20-30 years of age, 5'07"- 5'09" tall, and was last seen wearing a gray t-shirt, black shorts, black and white sneakers, and a black hat. There is no further physical or clothing description available. No video surveillance photos are available to be released at this time.

If anyone has any information in reference to this incident they are asked to contact the Robbery Unit at Troop 2, Glasgow, at 302-365-8566. Information may also be provided by calling [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at [www.tipsubmit.com](http://www.tipsubmit.com), or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

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Released: 090616 1235

-End-

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# Troopers Investigate Robbery of Grocery Store Customer

Presented by Public Information Officer Master Corporal  
Jeffrey R. Hale

**Newark, DE-** Delaware State Police are currently investigating the armed robbery of a customer of a Newark area grocery store that occurred yesterday evening.

The initial investigation has determined that the incident happened on Sunday, September 4, 2016 at approximately 7:45 p.m., as a 19 year old male was approaching his vehicle which was parked in the parking lot of the Safeway, located at 2400 Peoples Plaza, Newark. It was at this time that the victim was approached by two male suspects, one of which was armed with an unknown make and model handgun, who immediately began assaulting him. They then demanded money as well as the victim's cell phone. The victim complied with the suspect's demands and turned over an undisclosed amount of cash as well as his cell phone to the suspects. The suspects then attempted to enter the victim's vehicle but were unsuccessful. They then fled on foot in a southbound direction. The victim suffered minor injuries but refused medical treatment at the scene.

The first suspect was described as a black male 16-17 years of

age. He was 5'06" – 5'07" tall, had a thin build, and was last seen wearing a white shirt and blue shorts.

The second suspect was described as a black male 19-20 years of age. He was 5'09"-5'10" tall, had a large build, and was last seen wearing a black shirt and black shorts. He was also armed with a handgun. There is no further physical or clothing description for either suspect. Video surveillance photos are not available to be released at this time.

If anyone has any information in reference to this incident they are asked to contact the Robbery Unit at Troop 2, Glasgow, at 302-365-8566. Information may also be provided by calling [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at [www.tipsubmit.com](http://www.tipsubmit.com), or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

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Released: 090616 1130

-End-