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Fiery Grand Prairie Crash Kills One On Hwy. 161

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Eric King & Andres Gutierrez

A semi-trailer truck crashed after driving off a ramp on Highway 161 under I-30 in Grand Prairie.

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One person is dead following a fiery crash on State Highway 161 underneath I-30 in Grand Prairie.

Grand Prairie Police told NBC 5 that a semi-trailer truck lost control, crashed into a wall, then went over a barrier, landed on Highway 161, then exploded..

The crash shut down I-30 West and State Highway 161 north and south.

The driver of the semi was pronounced dead on the same. His identity has not yet been released.

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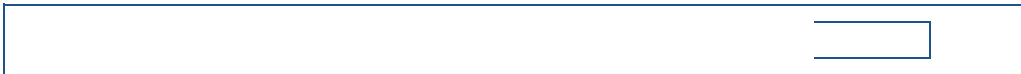


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Police say, the truck was carrying tiles and was full to capacity.

"That's scary, there are a lot of variables that could have mixed into this that could have made it more of a tragedy than it is," said Grand Prairie Police Detective Lyle Gensler.

"We're very thankful that when the truck veered off of I-30 it didn't hit any other cars carrying with it to 161. So it is very unfortunate that the driver died at the scene, but it's very fortunate that others lived through this horrific incident."



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Judy Richardson Golden · CSR at Web-TPA

Wonder if the driver fell asleep at the wheel?

[Reply](#) · 5 hours ago



Mary Allen Miller · Top Commenter

This is a heart-breaking weekend in the metroplex.

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Philip Harless

It was a refrigerated truck, can tell by decking of floor in trailer...Those are "time sensitive" loads and they usually are loaded late and driver has been up all day waiting for it to be loaded and winds up having to stay up all night to get it there on time....That's why I quit hauling beef!

[Reply](#) · 2 hours ago



Larry Tanton · Top Commenter · Rockwall High School

Yup but not all are time sensitive loads. I have hauled everything from brake drums, bulk loads of apples to beef and chicken in a reefer trailer. When i hauled IBP and Tyson loads some were pre-loaded and on the live loads they did wait until the load deadline to get ya out of the place and made the loads tight but even then it us up to the driver to let his dispatcher aware of the situation so the load could be relayed to another truck or have delivery appointment reset. Some will push it to the max and others will do the correct thing and that is to put safety first, no load is worth killing someone over. Many drivers have sleep apnea that is another possibility. I was diagnosed with it and currently use a bipap so i am all aware of the dangers of the condition because before i started driving a 18 wheeler i ran off onto a shoulder and almost rear ended a parked vehicle after just getting 8 hrs of sleep. This happened in the afternoon and doesn't need to be wee hours of the morning when most fall asleep from fatigue. I got fed up with where i was because of the short tight runs that didn't leave time to eat and shower, began to feel like i was someone's slave if you know what i mean. I was making more money on long haul loads because i was sitting less at docks unloading and reloading.

[Reply](#) · 3 minutes ago



Steve Maxey

fell asleep, using cell phone, or was cut off by some idiot in a four wheeler.i drive a truck locally and get cut off all the time by cars, many times they are using cell phones and don't see my 65ft long vehicle.some just have to get in front of me.once you get in front of that truck you are in it's kill zone.

[Reply](#) · 35 minutes ago



David Crawford

Drivers of "big trucks" on highway 287/81 between Fort Worth and Decatur Texas are reckless, passing cars and trucks driving the speed limit, leaving only a few feet between their rigs and the vehicles of unlucky victims when following, cutting in dangerously close when returning to the right hand lane, and often traveling in the passing lane for miles, many times side by side with another vehicle. I'm surprised we don't have more "accidents".

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