











# er crashes into guard rail along I-71 at Fulton Road exit



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Large Photo









Posted: 11/24/2012

By: Cassandra Nist, newsnet5.com

CLEVELAND - An Amherst woman remains in a condition after a car crash on I-71 and Fulton Saturday morning.

Cleveland Police said the accident happened around 8 a.m. on the West 25th Street entrance ramp to I-71 South.

A 2011 Ford Edge, driven by 36-year-old Amy of Amherst, Ohio, had struck a guardrail that impaled the vehicle by going through a side ar exiting through the rear window.

The Cleveland Division of Fire responded to e: Vitelli from the vehicle. Vitelli suffered severe

injuries to her left side and leg. Cleveland EMS transported her to MetroHealth Medical Center for treatment where she remains at this time

Cleveland Police are still investigating the cause of the crash, however, Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) crews on scene reported the crash was weather related.

ODOT District 12 will continue to have crews out throughout the evening into Sunday as needed, in Cuyahoga, Lake & Geauga Counties as a re of freezing temperatures and continued lake effect snow.

Nearly all roadways in our three-county area are wet, but icy spots can persist - particularly on bridges and overpasses. Nearly all roadway are running at or near typical speed, however conditions can change minute minute and mile-by-mile - particularly with lake effect snow!

As always - ODOT's best advice: "In Ice & Snow... Take it Slow!"

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Screen shots from video at the following link:

http://www.newsnet5.com/news/local-news/investigations/cleveland-woman-nearly-impaled-by-guardrail-now-banned-by-state-highway-officials











014490							
OHIO TRAFFIC CRASH REPORT	LOCAL REPORT NUMBER			SEVERITY			
376539, 12D-357    Private   Private							
MOH-2 OH-1P STATE REPORTABLE DOLLAR AMOUNT PROPERTY   C L P 0 0  CLEVELAN	D DIVISION	OF POLICE	011 UNTS	0 1 98 - ANIMAL 99 - UNKNOWN			
118 TOWNSHIP CLEVELAND		[1]1 2 4 2 0					
DEGREES / MINUTES / SECONDS LATITUDE O / // O / //	O LATITUDE		LONGITUDE				
		[7]2]2]0]3]	[8]1],[4]	2 4 7 3 9			
S N-NORTH-BOUND E-EASTBOUND   AL-ALL ALL AVENTHED INDUNDED   S-SOUTH-BOUND W-WESTBOUND   O   1   1	NUE CT - COURT H	IE - HEIGHTS MP - MILE IW - HIGHWAY PK - PARK A - LANE PI - PIKE	A Section Control of the Control of	ST - STREET WA - WAY TE - TERRACE TL - TRAIL			
LOCATION ROUTE NUMBER ROUTE TYPE!  LOCATION ROUTE NUMBER LOCATION ROUTE NUMBER N, S, E, W	448	COCATION ROUTE TYPES  ROAD IR - INTERSTAT  TYPE <sup>2</sup> US - US ROUTE  SR - STATE RO	e Route (Inc. Turnpike) :	CR - NUMBERED COUNTY ROUTE TR - NUMBER TOWNSHIP ROUTE			
DISTANCE FROM REFERENCE  MILES W N, S, FEET ROUTE  VAROS  N, S, E, W	X REFERENCE NAME (ROAD	, MILEPOST, HOUSE # 245.6	<ul><li>(2) おかずまディーを収めた事務なん。3</li></ul>	MP TYPE 2			
2 - MILE POST 03 - T-INTERSECTION 07 - ON RAMP 03 - T-INTERSECTION 08 - OFF RAMP 99 - 1	RAILWAY GRACE CROSSING SHARED-USE PATHS OR TR UNKNOWN	- INTERREPTION	LOCATION OF FIRST HA  1 - ON ROADWA 2 - ON SHOULDS 3 - IN MEDIAN	Y 5 - ON GORE			
04 - Y-INTERSECTION 09 - CROSSOVER 05 - TRAFFIC Circle/Roundasout 10 - DRIVEWAY/ALLEY/ACCESS			4 - ON ROADSID				
ROAD CONTOUR  1 - STRAIGHT LEVEL 4 - CURVE GRACE 2 - STRAIGHT GRADE 9 - UNKNOWN 3 - CURVE LEVEL 9 - UNKNOWN 04 - ICE	T 06 - WATER (STAN	DING, MOVING) 10 - O'	NKNOWN				
MANNER OF CRASH COLLISION/IMPACT  1 - Not Collision Between 2 - Rear End 5 - Backing							
ROAD SURFACE  1 - CONCRETE 2 - BLACKTOP, BITUMINOUS, STONE ASPHALT 3 - BRICK/BLOCK 6 - OTHER  4 - SLAG, GRAVEL 1 PRIMARY PRIMARY SECONDARY 1 - DAYLIGHT 2 - DAWN 3 - DUSK 4 - DARK - LIC		ROADWAY NOT LIGHTED (INKNOWN ROADWAY LIGHTING * SECONDARY CONE	O - UNKNOWN SCHO	DIRECTLY INVOLVED			
WORK ZONE  LAW ENFORCEMENT PRESENT  COPPLICATION  COPPLICATION  COPPLICATION  COPPLICATION  COPPLICATION  TYPE OF WORK ZONE  1 - LANE CLOSURE 2 - LANE SHIFT/CROSSOVER 3 - WORK ON SHOULDER OR MEDIAN  COPPLICATION  1 - LANE CLOSURE 3 - WORK ON SHOULDER OR MEDIAN	TENT OR MOVING WORK	OCATION OF CRASH IN WO	RK ZONE T WORK ZONE WARNING SK NG AREA				
NARRATIVE Unit 1 is operating west on the entrance	Diagram						
ramp from West 25th Street to Interstate 71	1						
southbound. When for reasons unknown it operates		unit 1	AND THE PARTY OF T				
off the right side (north side) of the roadway and				10 1 71 s/b			
collides with the O.D.O.T. end terminal.			West 25th	- Andrews			
	entran	ce ramp	- Andrews - Andrews				
		and the second s	-to 71				
		- Inter	state 71 southbour	ıd			
		ZN.	3				
		U					
REPORT TAKEN BY	-						
POLICE AGENCY MOTORIST AN EXISTING REPORT SENT TO ODPS)		ME CLEARED	OTHER INVESTIGATION TIME	TOTAL MINUTES			
[1]1]2]4]2]0]1]2] [0]7[5]6], [0]8]2]6] [0	<u> 8 4 0 </u> [	1 0 3 0	[3]6[0]	[4]7[0]			
Green A. A. n 62 OFFI		DO 8471174	00	PAGE 1 of 3			
HSY7001 OH1 (Rev 01/12)							

OHIO OF PARTIES A PROPERTY AND A PRO							
UNIT NUMBER OWNER NAME: LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE (☐ SAME AS DRI	VER) OWNER PHONE N	UMBER - INC. AREA CODE (	SAME AS DRIVER)	DAMAGE SCALE	DAMAGED AREA FRONT		
OWNER ADDRESS: CITY, STATE, ZIP ( SAME AS DRIVER)				4	02		
	treet Amhurst, Ohio 4400	01		I - NONE	09		
LP STATE LICENSE PLATE NUMBER			#CCCUPANTS	2 - MINOR			
<u> O h </u>			[0]1]	3 - FUNCTIONAL	08 04		
VEHICLE YEAR   VEHICLE MAKE   Ford	VEHICLE MODEL Edge	VEHICLE COLOR	red	4 - DISABLING	07 05		
PROOF OF INSURANCE COMPANY	POLICYNUMBER	TOWED BY			%		
SHOWN		Parma/L6	/19201	9-UNKNOWN	REAR		
CARRIER NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP				CARRIER PHONE	INCLUDE AREA CODE		
US DOT VEHICLE WEIGHT GVWR/GCWR	CARGO BODY TYPE  01 - NO CARGO BODY TYPE/NOT APPLICABLE	E 09 - POLE	TRAFFICWAY DESCRI				
HM PLACARD ID No.  1 - LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 10x LB 2 - 10,001 TO 26,000 LBs. 3 - MORE THAN 26,000 LBs.	02 - BUS/VAN (9-15 SEATS, INC DRIVER) 03 - BUS (16+ SEATS, INC DRIVER)	10 - CARGO TANK 11 - FLAT BED	5 2-TWO-WAY		UOUS LEFT TURN LAVE		
0 - NOTE 1194 20,000 ESS.	04 - VEHICLE TOWING ANOTHER VEHICLE 06 - LOGGING	12 - DUMP 13 - CONCRETE MIXER	4-TWO-WAY	Y, DIVIDED, UNPROTEC Y, DIVIDED, POSITIVE M Y TRAFFICWAY	TED (PAINTED OR GRASS > 4 Ft.) MEDIAN EDIAN BARRIER		
HM CLASS HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RELEASED	06 - INTERMODAL CONTAINER CHASSIS 07 - CARGO VAN/ENCLOSED BOX	14 - AUTO TRANSPORTER 15 - GARBAGE/REFUSE	HIT/SKIP UNIT				
NON-MOTORIST LOCATION PRIOR TO IMPACT TYPE OF USE	08 - GRAIN, CHIPS, GRAVEL UNTTYPE	99 - OTHER/UNKNOWN	1				
01 - INTERSECTION - MARKED CROSSWALK 02 - INTERSECTION - NO CROSSWALK	PASSENGER VEHICLES (LESS THAN 9 PASS 01 - SUB-COMPACT	13 - SINGLE UNIT T	(S OR COMBO UNITS RUCKS OR VAN 2 AX	E, 6 TIRES 21 - BU	/LIMO (9 OR MORE INCLUDING DRIVER) JS/VAN (9-15 SEATS, INC DRIVER		
03 - INTERSECTION - OTHER 04 - MIDBLOCK - MARKED CROSSWALK 05 - TRAVEL LANE - OTHER LOCATION 2 - COMMERCIAL	02 - COMPACT 99 - UNKNOWN 03 - MID SIZE OR HIT / SKIP 04 - FULL SIZE	14 - SINGLE UNIT 1 15 - SINGLE UNIT 1 16 - TRUCK/TRACT	RUCK / TRAILER	NON-MO	JS (16+ SEATS, INC DRIVER TORIST		
05 - TRAVEL LANE - OTHER LOCATION 2 - COMMERCIAL 3 - GOVERNMEN 3 - GOVER		17 - TRACTOR/SEM 18 - TRACTOR/DOI	/II-TRAILER	24 - AN	IIMAL WITH RIDER IMAL WITH BUGGY, WAGON, SURREY		
08 - SIDEWALK 09 - MEDIAN/CROSSING ISLAND	07 - PICKUP 08 - VAN	19 - TRACTOR/TRI 20 - OTHER MED/I	PLES	26 - PE	CYCLE/PEDACYCLIST DESTRIAN/SKATER HER NON-MOTORIST		
10 - DRIVEWAY ACCESS  11 - SHARED-USE PATH OR TRAIL  IN EMERGENC RESPONSE	10 - MOTORIZED BICYCLE	_		20.	TELLITOR OF THE PROPERTY OF TH		
12 - NON-TRAFFICWAY AREA 99 - OTHERUNKNOWN	11 - SNOWMOBILE / ATV 12 - OTHER PASSENGER VEHIC	LE HAS H	M PLACARD				
SPECIAL FUNCTION         01 - NONE         09 - AMBULANCE           02 - TAXI         10 - FIRE	40 FARM FOURNIENT	MAGED AREA 01 - NONE	08 - LEFT SIDE	99 - UNKNOV			
03-RENTAL TRUCK (OVER 10x LBS) 11-HIGHWAYMA 04-BUS-SCHOOL (PUBLIC OR PRIVATE) 12-MILITARY	20 - GOLF CART	03 - RIGHT FRONT  AREA 04 - RIGHT SIDE	T 09 - LEFT FRONT 10 - TOP AND WIN 11 - UNDERCARRI		3-STRIKING		
65 - BUS - TRANSIT · 13 - POLICE 66 - BUS - CHARTIER 14 - PUBLIC UTIL 67 - BUS - SHUTTLE 15 - OTHER GOVE	TY 22 - OTHER (EXPLAIN IN NARRATIVE)	OF - PIGHT BEAD	12 - TOTAL (ALL A	REAS)	4 - STRUCK 5 - STRIKING/STRUCK 9 - UNKNOWN		
07 - BUS - SHUTTLE 15 - OTHER GOVE 08 - BUS - OTHER 16 - CONSTRUCTI PRE-CRASH ACTIONS		07 - LEFT REAR	14 - OTHER				
MOTORIST 01 - STRAIGHT A HEAD 07 - MAKING U-TL	JRN 13 - NEGOTIATING A CURVE	NON-MOTORIST 15 - ENTERING OR CRO	DSSING SPECIFIED L	OCATION 21-	OTHER NON -MOTORIST ACTION		
02 - BACKING 08 - ENTERING TI 99 - UNKNOWN 03 - CHANGING LANES 09 - LEAVING TRA	RAFFIC LANE 14 - OTHER MOTORIST ACTION						
04 - OVERTAKING/PASSING 10 - PARKED 05 - MAKING RIGHT TURN 11 - SLOWING OR	STOPPED IN TRAFFIC	18 - PUSHING VEHICLE 19 - APPROACHING OR					
06 - MAKING LEFT TURN 12 - DRIVERLESS		20 - STANDING					
CONTRIBUTING CIRCUMSTANCES PRIMARY MOTORIST		NON-MOTOR		11 1 1	TURN SIGNALS		
2   1   02 - FAILURE TO YIELD 12 - IMI	PROPER BACKING PROPER START FROM PARKED POSITION	22 - NONE 23 - IMPROPER CROSSIN	IG	03-7	HEAD LAMPS FAIL LAMPS BRAKES		
04 - RAN STOP SIGN 14 - OF	OPPED OR PARKED ILLEGALLY ERATING VEHICLE IN NEGLIGENT MANNER /ERVING TO AVOID (DUE TO EXTERNAL CONDITIONS)	24 - DARTING 25 - LYING AND/OR ILLEG 26 - FAILURE TO YIELD R		05 - 8	TEERING TIRE BLOWOUT		
06 - UNSAFE SPEED 16 - WF	RONG SIDE/WRONG WAY	27 - NOT VISIBLE (DARK O		08 <b>-</b> T	VORN OR SLICK TIRES TRAILER EQUIPMENT DEFECTIVE		
99 - UNKNOWN 09 - FOLLOWED TOO CLOSELY/ACDA 19 - OF	SION OBSTRUCTION ERATING DEFECTIVE EQUIPMENT	29 - FAILURE TO OBEY TO /SIGNALS/OFFICER	RAFFIC SIGNS	10 - 0	MOTOR TROUBLE DISABLED FROM PRIOR ACCIDENT		
	AD SHIFTING/FALLING/SPILLING HER IMPROPER ACTION	30 - WRONG SIDE OF THE 32 - OTHER NON-MOTOR		11-0	OTHER DEFECTS		
SEQUENCE OF EVENTS	NON-COLLLSION EVENTS  01 - OVERTURN/ROLLOVER	06 - EQUIPMENT FAILURE	10- CPC	DSS MEDIAN			
08 31 1	02 - FIRE/EXPLOSION 03 - IMMERSION	(BLOWN TIRE, BRAKE FA 07 - SEPARATION OF UNIT	ILURE, ETC) 11 - CRC S OPP	OSS MEDIAN OSS CENTER LINE OSITE DIRECTION OF T	RAVEL		
FIRST HARMFUL 1 99 - UNKN	DWN 04 - JACKKNIFE 05 - CARGO/EQUIPMENT LOSS OR SHIFT	08 - RAN OFF ROAD RIGH 09 - RAN OFF ROAD LEFT	T 12 - DOV	WINHILL RUNAWAY JER NON-COLLISION			
EVENT COLLISION WITH FIXED OBJECT  COLLISION WITH PERSON, VEHICLE OR OBJECT NOT FIXED  25 IMPACT ATTENUATORICRASH CUSHON  41 - OTHER POST, POLE 42 - CULVERT							
14 - PEDESTRIAN 21 - PARKED MOTOR VEHICLE 26 - BRIDGE OVERVEAD STRUCTURE 34 - MEDIAN GUARDRAIL BARRIER OR SUPPORT 49 - FIRE HYDRANT 15 - PEDALCYCLE 22 - WORK ZONE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT 27 - BRIDGE PIER OR ABUTMENT 35 - MEDIAN CONCRETE BARRIER 42 - CULIVERT 50 - WORK ZONE MAINTENANCE							
16 - RAILWAY VEHICLE (TRAIN ENGINE) 23 - STRUCK BY FALLING, SH 17 - ANIMAL - FARM OR ANYTHING SET IN M	DTION BY A 29 - BRIDGE RAIL	36 - MEDIAN OTHER BAF 37 - TRAFFIC SIGN POST	T 44 - D	DITCH	EQUIPMENT 51 - WALL, BUILDING, TUNNEL		
19 - ANIMAL - DEER MOTOR VEHICLE 19 - ANIMAL - OTHER 24 - OTHER MOVABLE OBJECT 20 - MOTOR VEHICLE IN TRANSPORT OBJECT	30 - GUARDRAIL FACE T 31 - GUARDRAIL END 32 - PORTABLE BARRIER	38 - OVERHEAD SIGN PC 39 - LIGHT/LUMINARIES S 40 - UTILITY POLE	SUPPORT 46 - F	MBANKMENT ENCE MILBOX	52 - OTHER FIXED OBJECT		
UNIT SPEED POSTED SPEED TRAFFIC CONTROL		UNIT	F DIRECTION	- LEWISTE			
16 0    16 0    01 - NO CONTE	N 08 - RAILROAD FLASHERS 14 - W	ALK/DON'T WALK	5 TO 8	1 - NORTH 2 - SOUTH	5 - NORTHEAST 9 - UNKNOWN 6 - NORTHWEST		
STATED 04 - TRAFFIC S	IGNAL 10 - CONSTRUCTION BARRICADE 16 - No	OT REPORTED		3 - EAST 4 - WEST	7 - SOUTHEAST 8 - SOUTHWEST		
ESTIMATED 06 - SCHOOL 2					PAGE 2 OF 3		

•	MOTORIST/	Non-Motorist	/ OCCUPANT [	LOCAL REPORT NUMBER	
	UNIT NUMBER NAME: LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE	11011-1110101101	Low Low	1/4/4/901	LAGE LOSUAGE
	[0]1]				- FEMALE - MALE
ST	ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP	-		CONTACT PHONE: INC	LUDE AREA CODE
N MOTORI	INJURIES INJURED TAKEN BY EMS AGENCY	MEDICAL FACILITY INJURED TAKE		DOT COMPLIANT SEATING	
rorist/No	OL STATE OPERATOR LICENSE NUMBER	LONDITION LALCONOLI		MOTORCYCLE 01	2 1 3
Mon		4 No		20HOL TEST TYPE   ALCOHOL TEST	TVALUE DRUGTEST STATUS DRUGTEST TYPE
	OFFENSE CHARGED ( LCCAL CODE)	OFFENSEDESCRIPTION	CITATION NUMBER	H4	NOS-FREE DRIVER DISTRACTED BY
	UNIT NUMBER NAME: LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE		DAT		AGE GENDER
			L		F - FEMALE M - MALE
RIST	ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP			CONTACT PHONE- INC	LUDEAREACODE
ION MOTOR	INJURIES INJURED TAKEN BY EMS AGENCY	MEDICAL FACILITY INJURED TAKE		DOT COMPLIANT SEATING POS	TITON AIR BAG USAGE EJECTION TRAPPED
MOTORIST/NON	OL STATE OPERATOR LICENSE NUMBER OL			COHOL TEST TYPE ALCOHOL TEST	TVALUE DRUGTEST STATUS DRUGTEST TYPE
Ž		OL M/C END.			
	OFFENSE CHARGED ( 🔲 LOCAL CODE)	OFFENSE DESCRIPTION	CITATION NUMBER		NOS-FREE DRIVER DISTRACTED BY MCE ED
	INJURIES INJURED TAKEN BY		9 - UNKNOWN SAFETY EQUIPMENT	NON-MOTORIST	
	1 - NO INJURIES / NON REPORTED 1 - NOT TRANSPORTED TREATED AT SCENE 3 - NON-INCAPACITATING 2 - EMS	01 - NONE USED - VEHICLE OCCUPANT	5 - CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEM-FORWAR 6 - CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEM-REAR FAI	09 - NONE USED D FACING 10 - HELMET USE	12 - REFLECTIVE CLOTHING D 13 - LIGHTING PADS USED 14 - OTHER
	4 - INCAPACITATING 3 - POLICE 5 - FATAL 4 - OTHER 9 - UNKNOWN	03 - LAP BELT ONLY USED	7 - BOOSTER SEAT 8 - HELMET USED	(ELBOW, KNE	ES, ETC)
		- THIRD - LEFT SIDE (MOTORCYCLE SIDE CAR)	12 - PASSENGER IN UNENCLO	DSED CARGO AREA	AIR BAG USAGE 1- NOT DEPLOYED
	03 - FRONT - RIGHT SIDE 06 04 - SECOND - LEFT SIDE (MOTORCYCLE PASSENGER) 10	- THIRD - MIDDLE - THIRD - RIGHT SIDE - SLEEPER SECTION OF CAB (TRUCK)	13 - TRAILING UNIT 14 - RIDING ON A VEHICLE EX 15 - NON-MOTORIST	TERIOR (NON-TRAILING UNIT)	2 - DEPLOYED FRONT 3 - DEPLOYED SIDE 4 - DEPLOYED BOTH FRONT/SIDE
	06 SECOND - RIGHT SIDE	- PASSENGER IN OTHER ENCLOSED CARGO AREA (NON-TRAILING UNIT SUCH AS A BUS, PICK-UP W	10 - OTHER ITH CAB) 99 - UNKNOWN		5 - NOT APPLICABLE 9 - DEPLOYMENT UNKNOWN
	1 - NOT EJECTED 1 - NOT TRAPPED 2 - TOTALLY EJECTED 2 - EXTRACT BY	OPERATOR LICENSE CLASS   CONDITION   1 - CLASS A   1 - APPARENT   2 - CLASS B   2 - PHYSICAL	MPAIRMENT 6 - UNDE	ASLEEP, FAINTED, FATIGUED ER THE INFLUENCE OF	1 - NONE 2 - YES - ALCOHOL SUSPECTED
	3 - PARTIALLY EJECTED MECHANICAL MEANS 4 - NOT APPLICABLE 3 - EXTRACTED BY NON-MECHANICAL MEANS	3 - CLASS C 3 - EMOTIONA 4 - REGULAR CLASS (OHIO IS 'D') 4 - ILLNESS 5 - MC/MOPED ONLY	(DEPRESSED, ANGRY, DISTURBED) MEDI 7 - OTHE	ICATION, DRUGS, ALCOHOL ER	3 - YES - HBD NOT IMPAIRED 4 - YES - DRUG SUSPECTED 5 - YES - ALCOHOL AND DRUG SUSPECT
	ALCOHOL TEST STATUS ALCO 1 - NONE GIVEN 1 - N	HOL TEST TYPE DRUG TEST STATUES  DNE 1 - NONE GIVEN		IVER DISTRACTED BY NO DISTRACTED REPORTED	6 - OTHER INSIDE THE VEHICLE
	3 - TEST GIVEN, CONTAMINATED SAMPLE/UNUSABLE 3 - UI	.00D 2 - TEST REFUSED  RINE 3 - TEST GIVEN, CONTAMINATED : REATH 4 - TEST GIVEN, RESULTS KNOWN	AMPLE/UNUSABLE 3 - URINE 3 -	PHONE TEXTING/EMAILING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION	7 - EXTERNAL DISTRACTION
	5 - TEST GIVEN, RESULTS UNKNOWN 5 - O  UNIT NAME: LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE	THER 5 - TEST GIVEN, RESULTS UNKNO	WN 5-OTHER 5-	OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICE (NAVIGATION DEVICE, RADIO, EOF BIRTH	DVD) GENDER
					F - FEMALE :
OCCUPANT	ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP			CONTACT PHONE- INC	UDE AREA CODE
ŏ	INJURIES INJURED TAKEN BY EMS AGENCY	MEDICAL FACILITY INJURED TAKE		DOT COMPLIANT SEATING POS	TION AIR BAG USAGE EJECTION TRAFFED
	UNIT NUMBER NAME: LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE			HELMET L	
	NAME: CAST, FIRST, MIDDLE		DATE	EOFBIRTH	AGE GENDER F - FEMALE M - MALE
OCCUPANT	ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP			CONTACT PHONE- INCI	UDE AREA CODE
OCC	INJURIES INJURED TAKEN BY EMS AGENCY	MEDICAL FACILITY INJURED TAKE	NTO SAFETY EQUIPMENT USED	DOT COMPLIANT SEATING POS	
	INDONES INDONES INVESTOR	I	1-	DOI COMPLIANT	ITION AIR BAG USAGE
	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I			MOTORCYCLE HELMET	ITION AR BAG USAGE  EJECTION TRAPPED  PAGE 3 OF 3

# FOX19 INVESTIGATES: While ODOT waits, Virginia wastes no time on guardrail decision

Posted: Nov 11, 2014 4:46 PM EST Updated: Nov 11, 2014 4:50 PM EST

By Jody Barr, Investigative Reporter

CINCINNATI, OH (FOX19) - Nearly one month after a federal jury in Texas found Trinity Industries guilty of fraud, the Virginia Transportation Department (VDOT) is taking steps to rid its highways of the ET-PLUS guardrail end treatment. While VDOT acts, Ohio's Transportation agency continues to take a wait and see approach.

VDOT officials have spent more than six months working to get crash test data from Trinity Industries, the maker of the ET-PLUS. VDOT sent the company a letter in May asking for details of the modifications to the original ET-PLUS and for crash test evidence for the modified ET-PLUS.

In 2000, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) awarded Trinity Industries a spot on the agency's approved products list, allowing the original ET-PLUS to be used across the nation's highways. In 2005, Trinity modified the guardrail head and did not disclose the changes to the FHWA.

By Oct. 10, VDOT said that Trinity had not delivered crash test data to Virginia officials, and the agency gave Trinity Industries a deadline of Oct. 24 to send the crash test evidence on the modified ET-PLUS. The day before the deadline, VDOT spokesman Marshall Herman said Trinity informed VDOT the crash test data would not be provided.

VDOT officials made a decision at that point to put together a plan to identify every ET-PLUS end terminal and mark them for removal. That plan is still in the works, Herman said.

#### **ODOT: 'NO EVIDENCE' OF PROBLEM WITH ET-PLUS**

However, ODOT Director Jerry Wray said the state had "no evidence" the ET-PLUS guardrail end terminal had malfunctioned in Ohio. Wray made the statement despite ODOT holding onto an ET-PLUS guardrail head that was suspected of malfunctioning, causing an impalement and severely injuring a Cleveland-area woman last year.

"We have no evidence in the state of Ohio that there's any issue with these," Wray said.

Two days earlier, Wray announced ODOT would no longer purchase the ET-PLUS, pending new crash tests and direction from the FHWA on what to do about the heads. Nearly two weeks before, Trinity Industries also announced it would stop shipping the heads.

And despite a federal jury's verdict on Oct. 20 finding Trinity Industries guilty of fraud, Wray maintained the legal wrangling over the unapproved changes to the ET-PLUS was just "a point of contention between two manufacturers."

## **INDIANA TAKING ACTION**

Indiana, like 40 other states, has forbidden new installations of the ET-PLUS on guardrail projects across the state. The decision came after the Oct. 20 federal jury verdict in Texas where a whistleblower sued, claiming Trinity Industries defrauded the FHWA by keeping the changes it made to the ET-PLUS a "secret."

INDOT spokesman Will Wingfield said his agency decided to review all crash data from Indiana to figure out if that state's seen a problem with the ET-PLUS.

"INDOT is reading and researching individual crash reports that were classified as a collision with a guardrail end to assess performance," Wingfield said.

It's a move neither Ohio nor Kentucky has said they'll take to determine whether the ET-PLUS is safe for their highway systems.

### **GOVERNMENT STUDY: ONLY ET-PLUS 'STATISTICALLY LESS SAFE'**

University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) researcher Dr. Kevin Schrum put together a comparison of the modified ET-PLUS and the ET-2000 - the predecessor to the ET-PLUS - last September. Researchers looked at crash data from Missouri and Ohio, and concluded, "...in both states, it was found that the ET-PLUS placed motorists at a higher level of risk of both serious injury and fatal injuries relative to its predecessor, the ET-2000."

In Ohio, the study looked at all deadly and serious injury crashes involving the ET-PLUS. Researchers used crash scene photographs to determine the specific guardrail end involved, and found 60 deadly and serious injury crashes in Ohio between 2006-2013.

According to the study, which looked at 60 Ohio crashes, five were shown to be deadly. Of the five deadly crashes, four involved the ET-PLUS, while one deadly crash involved the ET-2000.

Despite this study and its data, ODOT said it did not collect crash data involving guardrail strikes and could not provide it.

However, the Ohio Highway Patrol (OHP) provided a spreadsheet showing 277 guardrail end strikes in the last five years across Ohio that involved either death or serious injury. The Patrol does not notate what guardrail end terminal was involved, however.

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