



# **A Summary of Highway Incidents Involving Fire & EMS Emergency Responders<sup>©</sup> 1997 – 2002**

**Compiled by:  
The Emergency Responder Safety Institute  
[www.respondersafety.com](http://www.respondersafety.com)**

Jack Sullivan, CSP, CFPS

Director of Training

Phone: 804-639-1312

[jack@lionvillefire.org](mailto:jack@lionvillefire.org)

## Summary Fire & EMS “Struck By” Incidents

( + Indicates Fire or EMS Fatality)

- 11-04-1997 : +Minneapolis, MN - Fire Captain Struck & Killed. Working at “minor injury accident”
- 01-12-1998 : +Centerville, Ohio - FF & PD Officer Struck & Killed. Struck & killed at 6 car accident along rain soaked I-675
- 03-09-1998 : + Lionville, PA - 8 FF’s & 2 EMT’s Struck, 1 Fatal. Struck and one killed at minor accident on Pennsylvania Turnpike
- 05-03-1998 : + Hagerstown, MD - Firefighter Struck & Killed. Directing traffic at vehicle accident ( Driver was distracted by incident operations )
- 06-16-1998 : Harmonville, PA - Firefighter Struck & Injured Struck & dragged 20 yards, at MVA scene
- 06-26-1998: + Laurel, PA - Fire Police Lt. Struck & Killed. Directing traffic at scene of vehicle accident
- 08-01-1998 : + Streetman, TX - Firefighter Struck & Killed. Struck by fire apparatus at grass fire
- 10-24-1998 : + Forest City, NC - Fire Police Struck & Killed. Crossing road at live burn exercise
- 01-05-1999 : + Kiln, MS - Firefighter Struck & Killed. Working at scene of mobile home fire ( Driver was blinded by lights from engine facing traffic)
- 02-18-1999 : Prince George’s County, MD - Deputy Chief arrested for closing southbound lanes of I-95 at accident scene
- 03-06-1999 : Downingtown, PA - Unit Struck, No FF Injuries. Traffic Unit struck by Mustang, at the scene of an accident , 2 occupants in car trapped by crash
- 08-05-1999 : + Midwest City, OK - Firefighter Struck and Killed. Working at scene of earlier MVA on Interstate 40. One other firefighter also injured in the wreck. (NIOSH Investigation)
- 09-08-1999 : Hazard, KY - 5 EMS Personnel Struck & Injured. Car plowed into an accident scene, struck an emergency vehicle, which then struck an ambulance on scene. Driver blinded by early morning sun glare
- 09-15-1999 : + Jeffersonville, IN - Firefighter Struck & Killed. Struck by fire apparatus while fighting wildland fire
- 09-27-1999 : + Marietta, SC - Firefighter Struck & Killed. Struck by tractor trailer while directing traffic at scene of previous MVA (NIOSH Investigation)
- 08-12-1999 : Dallas, TX area - Fire Truck & 1 Firefighter Struck, One Firefighter Injured, but 6 saved ! Drunk in full size Blazer, struck the back of an Engine which was blocking an accident scene, moved the Engine 8’ striking the firefighter and a guardrail. Driver of vehicle was trapped, and later died of his injuries. **Placement of the engine across traffic saved at least 6 personnel.**

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- 12-19-1999 : Broward County, FL. - Fire Dept Vehicle Struck. Fire engulfs 2 vehicles after truck hits fire-rescue vehicle. No injuries to personnel on scene.
- 02-16-2000 : Mason, Ohio - Fire Chief Struck & Injured. Fire crews working an accident, when FD Suburban rolled into the work area, pinning the Chief
- 02-18-2000 : Salt Lake County, Utah. - Fire Truck Struck. SUV traveling at high rate of speed, struck fire truck working 2 previous accidents at same spot. No firefighters struck, but one jumped guardrail, and **a correctly placed fire truck protected the scene.**
- 03-07-2000 : Norfolk, VA - Near miss ! - 1 Firefighter injured. Engine struck by an out of control dump truck, on I-264. Back injury to one of three firefighters, who jumped guard rail to escape skidding truck. Safe zone established by HIRT unit.
- 04-22-2000 : St. Louis , MO - 2 Medics & 1 PD Officer Injured. Car struck police cruiser along I-44, which in turn hit ambulance, working a previous accident scene.
- 04-27-2000 : Atlanta, Georgia - 3 Firefighters Struck & Injured. Firefighters working a car fire on I-20, when a car struck the engine, which then struck 3 firefighters (minor injuries).
- 04-26-2000 : Fairfax County, VA - Fire Truck Struck w/ 1 FF Injury. Engine working an accident on the Capital Beltway at 00:30, was struck by an auto ( @ 60 mph ) operated by an impaired driver. Safe zone established . Fire engine destroyed.
- 05-11-2000 : Fairfax County, VA (Again ! ) - Fire Truck Struck. Engine struck by car driven by impaired driver on I-95, No injuries to firefighters, safe zone established. Fire engine destroyed.
- 05-10-2000 : Jones County, KS - Fire Truck Struck. Auto, driven by impaired driver (.25 BAL) struck Quint which was operating at a car fire. The quint was on the side of road, had out cones, and there was a police cruiser 100 yd. back. 1 firefighter brushed by the car as it went by....
- 05-26-2000 : Chicago, IL - Firefighter Struck and Injured. Firefighter was running a hose across the street at the scene of a garage fire, when he was struck by a hit and run driver. Firefighter was in hospital in stable condition.
- 07-13-2000 : Friendswood, TX - FD Capt. Struck and Injured. Captain was investigating smoke in an oil field, when he was run over by a suspicious vehicle he encountered at the site.
- 08-20-2000 : San Ramon, CA - Fire Truck Struck. Citizen killed when her car struck a fire truck on scene of a previous MVA.
- 08-21-2000 : Gary, IN - Firefighter Struck & Injured. Firefighter was assisting an engine backing into station, when he was struck by an auto and injured.
- 09-01-2000 : Angeles National Forest, CA - Fire Truck Struck. One citizen killed and one injured when their motorcycles struck a slow moving fire truck working a wildfire.

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- 09-04 -2000 : +Yuma, AZ - Firefighter Struck & Killed. Struck by ARFF apparatus while on training drill.
- 09-04 -2000 : Ludlow, MA - Firefighter Struck and Injured. Hooking to a hydrant at a structure fire.
- 09-17-2000 : + Maryland Heights, MD - FF Struck and Killed. Struck while crossing an interstate at scene of an MVA.
- 10-24-2000 : Clearfield Co., PA - Fire Truck Struck, 3 FF Injuries. Parked rescue truck with 3 firefighters inside, was struck on an interstate, by a tractor trailer driver who fell asleep.
- 11-02-2000 : + Jonesboro, AR - Firefighter Struck and Killed. Crossing road at scene of a disabled fire truck on a roadway.
- 11-07-2000 : + Tiffin, OH - EMT Struck and Killed. Assisting a pedestrian along a highway.
- 12-23-2000 : + Chicago, IL - Firefighter Struck and Killed. Working an MVA on a highway.
- 01-03-2001 : + North Carolina – EMT Struck & Killed. Directing traffic at scene of previous MVA
- 01-10-2001 : + Kendall, NY – Fire Police Officer Struck & Killed. Directing traffic at car fire scene
- 01-17-2001 : Chicago, IL - Firefighter Struck & Injured. Directing traffic as fire truck backed into station
- 01-17-2001 : Chicago, IL – Paramedic Struck & Injured. Unloading equipment from ambulance on EMS run
- 01-18-2001 : Calumet City, IL - Fire Truck Struck, Civilian Injured. Filling at hydrant on side of the road
- 02-06-2001 : Kansas City, MO - Paramedic Struck & Injured. Unloading equipment from ambulance on EMS run
- 04-04-2001 : Decatur, IL – Firefighter Struck & Injured. Stepping out of fire engine at grass fire on I-72
- 04-05-2001 : Hearne, TX - Firefighter Struck & Injured. Directing Traffic at MVA on Texas 6
- 04-11-2001 : Martinsburg, WV - Fire Captain Struck & Injured. Ambulance struck while working an MVA on I-81
- 04-28-2001 : Charleston, SC - Firefighter Struck & Injured. Directing traffic while engine backed into station
- 05-19-2001 : Washington, DC – Firefighter Struck & Injured. Stepping out of fire engine on I-295 at MVA
- 06-02-2001 : Burton, SC - Firefighter Struck & Injured. Directing Traffic at MVA on SC 116

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- 06-30-2001 : + Maine, NY - Fire Police Struck & Killed. Directing traffic at scene of a car fire
- 09-07-2001 : Hendersonville, NC – 4 FF & EMT’s Struck & Injured. Working previous MVA, van ran through cones
- 10-23-2001 : Union County, NC - Firefighter struck and injured. Working a previous MVA, was struck by a car. Driver could not stop in time, scene obscured by fog.
- 01-01-2002 : + Madras, OR - Paramedic struck & killed. Placing flares out to protect the scene of an MVA when he was struck by tractor trailer.
- 01-02-2002 : Tampa, FL - Fire Engine Struck. On scene of a shopping center building fire. Engine was in parking lot, and was struck by a stolen car driven by a teenager.
- 01-06-2002 : Goochland, VA - Firefighter struck & leg amputated. Car skidded on ice and struck firefighter who was pinned between two vehicles.
- 03-13-2002 : Norfolk, VA - 2 Firefighters struck & injured. Fighting a car fire in HOV lanes in dense fog. Struck by civilian who could not see the scene.
- 03-20-2002 : + Gluckstadt , MS - Firefighter Struck & killed. Working an MVA on an Interstate, struck by motorist while crossing the road.
- 03-25-2002 : + Long Island, NY - 2 Firefighters struck. One killed and one seriously injured. Driver under the influence ran through road barricades and struck them at the scene of a training exercise.
- 04-11-2002 : + Russell, KS - Fire chief struck and killed by a fire truck responding to the scene of an MVA. The chief was directing traffic at the scene, when the brakes failed on a fire engine responding to the first accident. The engine struck the chief and an SUV involved in the first accident.
- 05-05-2002 : + Brookhaven, PA - Jr. Firefighter struck & killed. Responding on his bicycle to the firehouse for a fire call, and was struck by an auto.
- 05-09-2002 : Oktibbeha County, MS - Fire truck struck & civilian killed. Truck was parked on side of the road for training exercise.
- 06-05-2002 : Cleburne, Texas - Fire truck struck & EMT and 3 others injured. Firefighters and EMT’s working a previous MVA were struck when a tractor trailer slid into the scene, striking fire truck, which hit the EMT.
- 06-08-2002 : + Wildwood, FL - Firefighter & doctor struck & killed. Four others injured when a group of people helping victims of an MVA were struck by a tractor trailer that lost control on wet roads approaching the scene.
- 06-13-2002 : Sampson County, NC - Fire truck struck while it was parked at the scene of a previous MVA, which involved an EMT who was killed in the primary incident.

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- 06-20-2002 : Hanover County, VA - Fire truck struck and four (4) firefighters injured on the shoulder of I-95 NB while investigating a reported MVA.
- 07-01-2002 : + Esko, MN - Firefighter killed, and 5 others injured, while battling car fire on I-35, about 35 miles south of Duluth. Two firefighters, a police officer, and two civilians were injured, when a northbound pickup truck towing a camper-trailer in the left lane failed to slow down enough as it approached the emergency vehicles. The truck slammed into a car that had slowed, causing the car to careen over to the right shoulder, glance off of a squad car and then hit the burning car parked in front of it.
- 08-06-2002 : New York, NY – An EMT was struck by a drunk driver while loading a patient into an ambulance. The EMT had serious leg injuries and may have to have the leg amputated.
- 08-13-2002 : + Wichita West, Texas – A firefighter was killed when he was run over by a the fire truck he was working on, after the truck was struck by a pickup. The pickup drove through heavy smoke from a grass fire, and hit the fire truck while it was attempting a U-turn, a legal maneuver for the emergency vehicle. The impact knocked the firefighter off the front of the truck where he was fighting the fire from a cage on the bumper, officials said. The fire truck ran over him, and he was killed instantly.
- 08-19-2002 : + Richmond County, NC – Chief of Ellerbe Rescue Squad, was killed while assisting at an accident scene.
- 10-06-2002 : + Ardmore, OK – Two paramedics with the Southern Oklahoma Ambulance Service and their civilian patient, were struck and killed while at an accident scene on I-35. The paramedics were at the back of their ambulance on the shoulder of the road, loading the patient, when they were struck by an SUV who was trying to change lanes to avoid traffic at the accident scene.
- 10-12-2002 : West Patterson, NJ – Asst. Chief Michael Muccio, 43, of the West Patterson FD was struck at the scene of an overturned tractor trailer with fuel spill on I-80. He was putting his gear in the trunk of his car when he was struck by the vehicle which plowed through traffic control barricades. The driver who struck him was under the influence. The Asst. Chief had his lower leg amputated.
- 11-06-2002 : + Osaka, Japan – Two Osaka Fire Department rescue personnel were struck by the Super Hakuto express train, while the men were tending to a teenager struck by an earlier train. One firefighter was killed, and the other was seriously injured. Miscommunications between rescue personnel and the railroad, caused the train to continue normal operations while the firefighters were operating on the tracks. The train was traveling at 100 kph
- 11-20-2002 : Central Elgin, Canada – A volunteer firefighter was struck by a car while directing traffic at an accident scene. The firefighter was standing on the west shoulder of Highbury at the time and landed in a nearby ditch. He suffered leg injuries and was conscious and talking to paramedics.

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- 11-30-2002 : + Lorient, France – Five firefighters were helping victims of a small crash near a highway exit in southeast France late Friday when a Mercedes driving at around 150 kilometers (93 miles) per hour slammed into them. All five were killed, with two of them being knocked into a river by the impact. The 81-year-old driver, whose name was not released, was slightly injured in the crash near Lorient, and taken into police custody.
- 12-05-2002 : + FORT RUCKER, Ala. -- One civilian firefighter was killed and another injured Wednesday when they were run over by a fire truck during a routine training exercise at Fort Rucker. The injured firefighter was treated for a foot injury. The firefighters, both civilian employees of the Army, were helping to extinguish flames on a mock aircraft around 6:45 p.m. when their fire truck rolled over them. "Initial indications are something caused the vehicle to slip into gear and then move forward".
- 12-11-2002 : Lancaster County, PA – A volunteer fire police officer was struck by a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation truck during an ice storm. John Blevins was pinned between the truck and another vehicle when the truck slid across the road. He was directing traffic at a previous accident.