

Worker Killed While Driving Recycling Truck



What happened?

The driver of a waste disposal/recycling truck was ejected from his vehicle and killed following a traffic collision.

The truck driver entered an intersection to make a left turn and had the green light at the time, according to witnesses. A second vehicle entered the intersection, allegedly against the red light, and struck the truck on the driver's door and left-front tire. The truck driver lost control of his vehicle, which swerved onto the shoulder of the road, re-entered the roadway and travelled approximately 50 yards before nosing into an embankment.

The truck driver was ejected from his vehicle near the spot where it re-entered the roadway and landed beneath the left side tires of the still-traveling truck. The truck driver was not wearing a seatbelt at the time.

What can you do to prevent this from happening at your workplace?

- Always wear seatbelts when driving.
- Train all drivers in defensive driving.
- Develop a motor vehicle policy for your company. You can find guidance at [L&I Safety & Health Rules](#).

This bulletin was developed by L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) to alert employers, labor groups, and employees of a tragic loss of life. The information in this bulletin is based on preliminary data and does NOT represent final determinations of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.

Need more information?

Get Started with Safety & Health to get information on safety and health, rules and policies, sample programs, and general assistance.

Interested in a free safety consultation at your workplace?

The Department of Labor & Industries provides consultations, training, and technical assistance at no cost to employers. Call today to schedule a free confidential consultation or go to [Request Consultation](#) for more information. You may also call 1-800-423-7233 or visit a local L&I office and ask for the Consultation Manager.

How does an employee file a complaint?

Employees or employee representatives may file formal complaints with DOSH when they believe a safety or health hazard exists in their workplace. [Complaint forms](#) are available from your local L&I office in both English and Spanish, or on the Web.

Contact us. We're here to help.