



*Town of Wallingford, Connecticut*  
*Department of Police Services*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Deputy Chief Anthony DeMaio  
Wallingford Police Department  
May 17, 2022 @ 3:00 P.M.

**Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision on South Colony Road, Wallingford**

The Wallingford Police Department Traffic Division is investigating a fatal two-vehicle collision involving a 2004 Mercedes-Benz C320 and 2020 Freightliner Cascadia Tractor-Trailer combination that occurred on South Colony Road, at its intersection with South Elm Street in the Town of Wallingford. This collision occurred on May 17, 2022 at approximately 04:40 A.M.

Upon the arrival of initial responding Wallingford Police Patrol Officers they found the Mercedes-Benz severely damaged with its operator trapped inside. As the officers attempted to gain entrance and help the operator, the vehicle caught fire. The officers bravely extinguished the fire, but were unable to gain entry into the vehicle due to the severity of the damage.

The operator of the Mercedes-Benz was identified as Jesse S. Brown-Guillen, age 26, of Wallingford. Mr. Brown-Guillen, who was ultimately extricated from the vehicle by the Wallingford Fire Department, died at the scene from injuries sustained in the collision.

The operator of the Freightliner truck was identified as Angel Figueroa, age 63, of Waterbury. At the time of the collision Mr. Figueroa was working for the Infra-Metals Company, a large structural steel provider located at 8 Pent Hwy in Wallingford, and was hauling a 53-foot flatbed trailer loaded with structural steel. Both Infra-Metals and Mr. Figueroa have been fully cooperative with the investigation.

This investigation, which is ongoing, revealed that Mr. Brown-Guillen was traveling in a westbound direction on South Elm Street prior to the collision. As Mr. Brown-Guillen approached the signalized intersection of South Elm Street and South Colony Road, he failed to come to a stop, crossed over the two northbound travel lanes of South Colony Road and entered the southbound travel lanes where he encountered the trailer portion of the Infra-Metals tractor-trailer combination, which was traveling southbound. The Mercedes-Benz collided with the loaded trailer, pushing the trailer westward in to the metal beam guardrail along the western edge of the roadway. The Mercedes-Benz was then dragged southward for a short distance before the two vehicles separated, with the Tractor-trailer coming to a stop just south of the point of impact. The force of the collision caused the load to shift, and several large pieces of structural steel to spill out on to the roadway.



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South Colony Road was closed to vehicular traffic for several hours to allow the Wallingford Police Department Traffic Division to reconstruct the collision. The Connecticut State Police Collision Analysis Reconstruction (CARS) and Truck Squads provided specialized assistance in this investigation. Anyone who witnessed this collision is encouraged to call Officer James Knowlton at 203-294-2818 or Officer Christian Evans at 203-294-2819.

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