

BLUE SHEET

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

Preliminary Summary Report of Serious CAL FIRE Injuries, Illnesses, Accidents and Near-Miss Incidents



CAL FIRE Engine Accident Vehicle Accident

August 18, 2012

Highway 99 Incident

12-CA-AEU-019245

California Northern Region

This Preliminary Summary Report is intended as an aid in accident prevention, and to provide factual information from the first 24 hours of the accident review. To that end it is published and distributed within a short time frame. Information contained within may be subject to revision as further investigation is conducted, and other reports and documents are received.

Lookout

Communications

Escape Routes

Safety Zones

SYNOPSIS

The following information is a preliminary summary of a single vehicle traffic collision that involved a CAL FIRE Model 34 Engine. The collision resulted in major damage to the right rear compartment area of the Engine. No CAL FIRE personnel or civilians were injured.

NARRATIVE

On August 18, 2012, at approximately 1:50 P.M., a CAL FIRE Engine Strike Team was travelling north on Highway 99 in Sacramento, CA. As the Engine Strike Team approached the Highway 99/Highway 50 interchange, a passenger vehicle abruptly stopped in front of one of the Engines. The Engine Operator swerved to avoid colliding with the back of the passenger vehicle. The Strike Team leader, who was following in a CAL FIRE pickup truck, also made an evasive maneuver to avoid the passenger vehicle. As the Engine Operator corrected the sway of the Engine, the Engine spun around approximately 200 degrees. The Engine's right rear compartment contacted the center K-Rail divider and came to a stop.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE REVIEW

- Drive defensively.
- Anticipate rapid changes in traffic conditions near busy interchanges.
- Increase spacing between vehicles for your total stopping distance.