

## 9 Struck by vehicle--Inspection #1474882 Minority Contracting

A **23 year old male** employee was **struck by** a white 2000 Chevrolet pickup truck while preparing to bore communication conduit for fiber optic cable installation along the side of a 4-lane road. Traffic signage was up stating: Utility Construction Ahead. The contractor had 3 signs on both sides of the road.

The first sign was located approximately 1500 feet away from the first drill at AutoZone; the second sign was at 800 feet, close to the 31-W liquor store; and, the third sign was at the top of the hill at 400 feet from the first drill. The crew set their drills up at the base of the hill where there is a trailer park driveway and a large open right-of-way that gave them working room without being on or near the road. Due to the large right-of-way they had no concrete barricades installed. The employees had not started to bore at the site yet as they were waiting on an off duty police officer for traffic control. They would normally start work when he arrived and they put out traffic cones.

Minority Contracting Service trucks have flashing lights. The drills however did not have flashing lights. The Minority Contracting Service employees were wearing safety vests, steel toe shoes, and hard hats.

Prior to the accident, the employees decided who would drill and where the drills needed to be set up. It was determined that the victim would set up his drill so that he was boring northwest toward the bridge and the shop. The victim was going to be boring in an area with a narrow right-of-way so it was decided that they would have two long bores on each side of the narrow right-of-way to keep from working in or near the road traffic. Each drill was going to bore 400 to 700 feet on either side connecting in the middle. The victim took his measuring wheel and started to measure from the drill to his stopping point. The drill was placed in the large yard and a large gravel easement that is in the right-of-way.

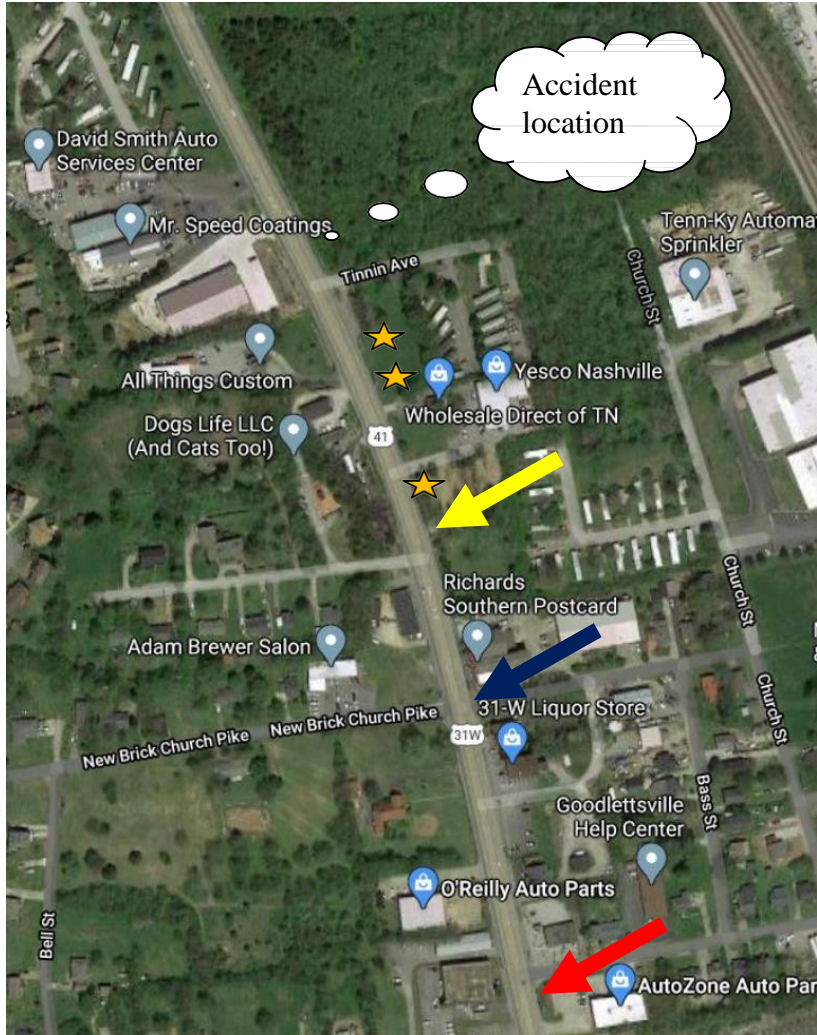
As the victim was in the process of walking in the grass next to the 4-lane road to get his measurement he was struck by a truck that actually fled the scene but later returned to the accident site. It appears that the driver was a former employee who was just trying to scare one of his former colleagues by swerving towards him.

### **Citation(s) as Originally Issued**

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Based on the information obtained, **no citations** were issued due to the employer meeting the requirements for traffic control in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). In addition, the victim being struck may have been with criminal malice.

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