



Industry: **Delivery**
Occupation: **Line haul driver**
Task: **Driving tractor, hauling two trailers**



TIPS TO LIVE BY

Employers

- Provide workers with reflective clothing.
- Remind drivers not to work in the traffic lane, even in an emergency. Cargo can be replaced.

Drivers

- Always wear your reflective gear.
- Don't risk your life for your cargo.
- Stay vigilant and never turn your back on traffic. Assume that other drivers cannot see you outside your vehicle.

It was a dark and stormy night...

Although this could be a quote from Snoopy, today it is from a Washington State truck driver injured on the job. This 61-year-old delivery driver had pulled on to the shoulder of a freeway exit ramp after being signaled by another trucker that something was wrong with his back trailer.

He exited his truck to check and found a small, smoky brake fire. He grabbed his fire extinguisher and dialed 911. Next thing he knew, he woke up in the grass on the side of the road. He had been struck by a passing motorist.

The combination of wind, rain, smoke and his dark uniform made him nearly invisible. In the stress of the moment of dealing with his first fire, he put the job first, before his own safety. Ultimately, he spent weeks in the hospital before being transferred to a nursing facility. Now, the multiple injuries have him in a body brace and walking with a cane. Sleeping in a flat bed is impossible. In addition to his personal pain, his injuries have cost more than \$100,000 and he was off work for 181 days before he was determined to be disabled. What happened that night ended his working life as a truck driver.

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