

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | May 19, 2023

## **Semi Fire Causes Lane Closure on I-29**

**What:** Property

**Where:** I-29 mm 49, ½ mile south of Hickson/Oxbow exit

**When:** 5-19-2023, 2:24 PM (Central)

**Road Conditions:** Good, Dry

**Weather Conditions:** Sunny, clear sky

**Crash Involvement:** One Vehicle (truck tractor pulling semi-trailer)

**Type of Crash:** Semi vs fixed object

**Agencies Involved:** ND Highway Patrol, ND Dept. of Transportation, Cass County SO, Richland County SO, Kindred Fire, Horace Fire, Davenport Fire, Sanford Ambulance

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2023 International truck tractor, 2022 Great Dane trailer

**Driver No. 1:** Efrain Duran, male, 69, McAllen, TX

**Restraints:** Seatbelt in use

**Charges:** Citation-Fail to maintain a single lane

**NARRATIVE:** An International (truck tractor pulling semi-trailer) was traveling south on I-29 through a construction zone. The north bound lanes of I-29 were utilized for head-to-head traffic. The south bound lanes had been closed for Fargo/Moorhead Diversion construction. The International truck was entering the transition area and was preparing to exit the construction zone. The International truck drifted left of center and struck the water barriers leading up to the temporary concrete barriers. The International truck veered right and then left, striking the concrete barriers. The International partially left its lane, coming to rest in the median, while the trailer was blocking the south bound lane. The water barrels blocked the north bound lanes.

The International immediately caught fire causing the trailer to also catch fire. The fire destroyed the International and trailer, which was hauling automotive parts.

Witnesses helped Efrain get out of the burning International. Industrial Builders and Park Construction assisted with opening the north and sound bound lanes.

The crash remains under investigation by the NDHP.

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**For More Information Contact:**

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