

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | July 12, 2024

## **Property-Damage Crash and Traffic Backup Near Thompson**

**What:** Property

**Where:** southbound Interstate 29 Exit 130, 1 mile east of Thompson, ND

**When:** 07/12/2024, approximately 2:30 PM

**Road Conditions:** Good

**Weather Conditions:** Sunny

**Crash Involvement:** 2-Vehicle

**Type of Crash:** Rear-End

**Agencies Involved:** NDHP, Thompson Fire, Interstate Towing

**Vehicle No. 1:** 2020 International truck tractor with covered flatbed trailer

**Driver No. 1:** Vaughn Cormie; male; age 57; of Winnipeg, MB; uninjured

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use

**Charges:** Failure to Maintain Control-Distracted Driving

**Vehicle No. 2:** 2010 Freightliner flatbed straight truck

**Driver No. 2:** Daniel Yakubco; male; age 62; of Bismarck, ND; uninjured

**Restraints:** Seat belt in use

**Charges:** None

**NARRATIVE:** Cormie was driving the International south on Interstate 29. Yakubco was driving the Freightliner south as part of a roadway stripe painting convoy, exiting southbound Interstate 29 at Exit 130. Cormie failed to recognize the Freightliner ahead was moving more slowly, and the International rear-ended the Freightliner. The International came to rest on the shoulder, but the Freightliner came to rest in the right-hand lane of southbound traffic.

Neither Cormie nor Yakubco were injured.

The Freightliner was equipped with illuminated warning lights and a traffic directional arrow board directing traffic to the left. It was also equipped with a rear crash impact attenuator.

Southbound traffic on Interstate 29 was reduced to one lane for approximately 3 hours while the crash was investigated and cleared.

Motorists are reminded to avoid distractions while driving and remain fully attentive to their surroundings and the driving task.

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**For more information, contact:**

**Lt Ryan Panasuk** 701-328-2447  
rpanasuk@nd.gov