

# Informational Summary Report of Serious or Near Serious CAL FIRE Injuries, Illnesses and Accidents



## GREEN SHEET

### Fire Engine Rollover

September 4, 2025

TCU September Lightning Complex

25-CA-TCU-012078

25-CA-TCU-012202

California Southern Region

### SUMMARY

On September 4, 2025, a CAL FIRE Type 3 Engine (E1) was assigned to the TCU September Lightning Complex. At approximately 0800 hours, E1 was involved in a single-vehicle rollover while traveling on State Highway 49, approximately 2.2 miles south of the Angels Camp Incident Base. E1, staffed with a Fire Captain (FC1) and two Firefighter I's (FF1 and FF2), lost control while negotiating a sharp "S" curve. E1 struck the hillside, rolled onto its passenger side, and came to rest. One firefighter sustained minor lacerations and was transported to a local area hospital, where they were evaluated and released. The remaining two crew members were evaluated at the scene and released with no injuries.

## CONDITIONS

The rollover occurred on a narrow, paved, section of State Highway 49.

### **Location:**

- South State Highway 49, South Red Hill Road
- Latitude/Longitude: 38°01.37N, 120° 30.40W

### **Weather:**

- Date/Time: 09/04/2025, 0800
- Temperature: 77° Fahrenheit
- Elevation: 1378 feet
- Relative Humidity: 49%
- Winds: 2 mph N/E
- Visibility: Clear

### **Road Conditions:**

- The highway is a winding, narrow, mid-slope road with lanes approximately 9 feet wide. Each shoulder is narrow on both sides.
- The paved road surface was dry at the time of rollover.

### **Make/Model of Equipment:**

- 2008 International Model 34 Type 3 Engine

## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

On September 3, 2025, at 2100 hours, E1 was notified to form up at the designated meeting point on September 4, 2025, at 0400 hours to be part of an engine strike team. E1 would be responding to the TCU September Lightning Complex for the 0700 hours Operational Briefing.

On September 4, 2025, E1 left their assigned station at approximately 0145 hours and arrived at the designated meeting station at approximately 0400 hours. After a briefing from the Strike Team Leader, the strike team departed the designated meeting point at approximately 0400 hours, arriving at the Angels Camp Incident Base at approximately 0545 hours. The Strike Team Leader and Company Officers attended the Operational Briefing at 0700 hours; the remaining personnel were then briefed prior to departing for the 6-2 Fire at approximately 0800 hours.

While traveling south on State Highway 49, E1 approached a sharp "S" curve with a recommended speed limit of 30 mph. During the turn, the rear tires lost traction, and the engine began to "fishtail". FC1 attempted to regain control to avoid driving off a steep embankment on the right side of the road. The engine then struck the opposing hillside, causing it to roll onto its passenger side. All three occupants were wearing their seatbelts at the time of the incident.

FC1 and FF2 were able to self-extricate. The front passenger, FF1, was temporarily entangled but was quickly extricated with the assistance of another engine from the strike team. FF1 was transported to a local area hospital with minor lacerations and was later released. FC1 and FF2 were evaluated on scene and released without any injuries.

## **INJURIES/DAMAGES**

- FF1 suffered minor injuries and was transported to a local area hospital, where they were treated and released.
- FC1 and FF2 were uninjured.
- E1 sustained major damage, resulting in complete loss of equipment.

## **SAFETY ISSUES FOR REVIEW**

- Know the size and performance limitations of your vehicle.
- Follow all traffic laws and drive at a safe speed for road conditions.

## **INCIDENTAL ISSUES/LESSONS LEARNED**

- Drive within your experience and training level.
- Ensure training on new or unfamiliar equipment or apparatus is documented ([Handbook 1701](#)).
- Maintain situational awareness of changing road conditions such as narrow or unfamiliar roads.
- Be familiar with incident accident reporting protocols.

## PHOTOS/SITE DIAGRAMS/MAPS













