



**File Code:** 6730  
**Route To:**

**Date:** September 27, 2006

**Subject:** Expanded Briefing  
LE&I Vehicle Rollover of September 20, 2006

**To:** Hank Kashdan, DASHO

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE:**

Name of injured: None

Property damage: Total loss to LE&I Vehicle

Preliminary Factual Findings: On September 20, 2006 at 1300 hours (CST), an LE&I employee from the Mark Twain NF was returning from a two week fire assignment on the South Fork Complex out of McCall, Idaho. While traveling eastbound on I-70, 5 miles east of Brewster, Kansas, the LEO lost control of the vehicle, rolling over in the center median. The LEO was transported to a local hospital, treated and released. The vehicle was destroyed.



**Narrative:**

The LEO had been de-mobed back to the Mark Twain NF on September 19<sup>th</sup> in McCall, Idaho and began traveling south on ID SR-55 at 0930 hours, through Boise and onto I-84 to Rock Springs, Wy., 600 miles and 10 hours later.

At approximately 1900 hours the LEO attempted to locate a hotel room for the night, but was unable to due to a large convention. The LEO continued to drive for another 2 hours and ended up in a rest stop and sleeping in the vehicle. Highway traffic kept the LEO from a good nights rest. On September 20<sup>th</sup>, after awaking at approximately 0500 hours, the LEO traveled for about 30 minutes, but pulled over to rest due to fatigue. Again due to noise and traffic, the LEO continued on I-80 to Laramie and Cheyenne for fuel and coffee at 0600 hours and then onto Strasburg, CO., arriving at 0800. After fuel and snack, the LEO traveled to Goodland, Kansas, for lunch and then began heading eastbound I-70 with the cruise control on 70mph (speed limit) for approximately 20 minutes. The LEO had planned to stop for the day at around 1500 hours. As the LEO began climbing a slight grade, a car was passed. The LEO reached for a drink and the lid came off the cup. After fixing the lid and looking up, the LEO stated a semi-truck pulled into the left lane in front of the LE unit. The LEO began to pull into the right lane to see why the semi changed lanes, but saw road crew vehicles immediately in the right lane. Taking evasive action, the LEO pulled back into the left lane braking and began to fishtail.



The vehicle continued eastbound in the left lane, missing the road crew, but sliding sideways and off into the center median, rolling one complete revolution and coming to a rest on its wheels. The LEO was assisted out of the vehicle by the road crew and sustained no injuries.

Kansas Highway Patrol conducted an accident investigation. A WO Accident Investigation Team is continuing the investigation.

/s/ David C. Edgar  
Team Leader/Chief Investigator

cc: Dick King, Gary Helmer, John Twiss, Randy Moore, Larry Sutton