



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



Leonard C. Boyle
Commissioner of Public Safety

Colonel Edward J. Lynch
Deputy Commissioner, Division of State Police

* * * News Release * * *

Vehicle Fire I84 Westbound Exit 15

Date: 03/09/05
Time: 0932 – 1145hrs
Case# DPS05-012466
Investigator: TFC Morrone #355.

On 03/09/05 at 0932hrs, a 2002 Chevy Suburban was towing a trailer carrying a 6,000lb Scrubber/Sweeper on I84 W/B by Exit 15. The driver, Albert Watson (DOB 02/01/66) noticed that the new Sweeper was on fire. He pulled over under the Bullet Hill overpass, disconnected the trailer from the Suburban, and attempted to extinguish the fire. The Southbury Fire Dept responded to the scene and put the fire out. The \$40,000.00 Sweeper (and trailer) were both destroyed. The Westbound lanes of I84 were closed for 2 hours while the fire was extinguished and the bridge was inspected by DOT for fire damage. The Eastbound lanes were temporarily closed for a short time during the fire, until there was no possibility of the Sweeper's propane fuel tank exploding.

Albert Watson (the driver) is a Salesman for Tennant Company, which is based out of Minneapolis, Mn. The Sweeper was being transported from Chesire, Ct. to Yonkers, NY. All vehicles involved were owned by Tennant Company.

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