



Sheriff Steve Stovall

Stephenson County Sheriff's Office

For Immediate Release
May 6, 2026

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FATAL TRAFFIC CRASH INVESTIGATION

On May 6, 2026, at approximately 11:52 a.m., personnel from the Stephenson County Sheriff's Office responded to the area of IL Route 75 approximately one-half mile east of E. Winneshiek Road in rural Stephenson County for a report of a two-vehicle traffic crash. Upon arrival, deputies located a deceased adult male.

Preliminary investigation indicates that a semi-truck was traveling eastbound on IL Route 75 when it was involved in a head-on collision with a black sedan traveling westbound. Based on witness statements and evidence observed at the scene, investigators believe the black sedan may have crossed into the eastbound lane of travel prior to the crash.

The driver of the semi-truck, a 57-year-old male, was transported by Tri-District Ambulance to Mercyhealth Hospital-Freeport with non-life-threatening injuries.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation. The identity of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The Stephenson County Sheriff's Office would like to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Dakota Fire Protection District, Tri-District Ambulance Service, Stephenson County Coroner's Office, Illinois State Police Troop 1, and the Illinois State Police Traffic Crash Reconstruction Unit.

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