

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1304

January 30, 2014

Anne S. Ferro
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Suite W60-300,
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Ferro:

I am writing to request your assistance in investigating the fatal crash that occurred this Monday on I-88 in Aurora, Illinois. The crash took the life of an Illinois Tollway worker and critically injured a state trooper. These two courageous public servants were stopped on the side of the road assisting a driver and his broken down truck when the accident occurred.

According to press reports, the driver was employed by DND International, based in Naperville, Illinois. News stories have also reported this driver was on the road for over 30 hours and may have slept as little as four hours. The driver is now facing charges of operating a commercial motor vehicle while impaired or fatigued, making a false report of record and duty status, and driving beyond the current hours allowed by law.

Federal rules limiting the hours a truck driver can be on the road have been subject to more than a decade of litigation. These rules went into effect in July 2013, and already proposals have been floated to weaken these important regulations. It is important that your agency ensures DND and other over the road transportation companies in Illinois are in compliance with these rules.

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has the authority and the responsibility to investigate incidents like the one this week in Illinois, and I urge you to quickly and fully investigate this accident.

Furthermore, I hope you will look into any other similar incidents and take the necessary steps to ensure that every trucking company takes these federal rules seriously and is doing everything possible to prevent the kind of dangerous driving behavior that may have contributed to the tragedy outside Chicago on Monday.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to working with you to ensure all commercial vehicle operators in Illinois are operating as safely as possible.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
U.S. Senator