

## Update: Victim ID'd in Train vs. Semi Crash in Little Rock

Posted: Jun 21, 2018 11:31 AM CDT

Updated: Jun 21, 2018 04:47 PM CDT



LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - A collision between a semi and a train on the city's southeast side has killed a Port Authority employee-- identified as Donald Melton, 62, from Austin, Arkansas--who had been riding on the train.

It happened around 9:30 a.m. Thursday in the area of Fourche Dam Pike and Frazier Pike.

The Little Rock Police Department says the worker and another Port Authority employee had been riding on the end of the train. Both of the men reportedly jumped off before the collision when they saw that the semi was not stopping at the railroad crossing.

Police say that when the train hit the semi, it went off the track and fell on top of one of the employees who was trying to escape. The driver of the semi was not injured.

The train had been traveling backwards and southbound when the accident occurred. The front of the train was knocked over and off the tracks.

Donald Melton was set to retire this month after working for Port Authority for 22 years. He celebrated his retirement at a party yesterday.

Executive Director of the Little Rock Port Authority Bryan Day released the following statement:

There was an accident today within the Port of Little Rock involving a vehicle and the Little Rock Port Authority Railroad. A longtime Little Rock Port Authority Railroad employee has died as a result of the accident. Local and federal officials are responding to the accident

and will conduct a full investigation. Our hearts and prayers are with all of those involved in the accident as well as our colleague and his family.

<http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2018/jun/21/train-collision-tractor-trailer-kills-one-east-lit/>

Thursday, July 05, 2018, 6:31 a.m.

## **PHOTOS: Worker riding on back of train crushed in derailment after crash in Little Rock, police say**

By [Jaime Dunaway](#)

This article was originally published June 21, 2018 at 10:13 a.m. Updated June 21, 2018 at 5:17 p.m.

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Little Rock police say a Port Authority worker who was riding on the back of a train was killed when it crashed with an 18-wheeler Thursday morning.

The collision happened about 9:30 a.m. in the 8200 block of Frazier Pike Road in east Little Rock.

Officer Steve Moore said the train was backing up when it hit the truck. Two Little Rock Port Authority workers were riding on the back of the train and jumped off in opposite directions when the wreck occurred, police said. A 62-year-old man was crushed when the train fell off the tracks.

"A longtime Little Rock Port Authority Railroad employee has died as a result of the accident," the agency's executive director, Bryan Day, said in a statement. "Our hearts and prayers are with all of those involved in the accident, as well as our colleague and his family."

Day added that local and federal officials responded to the crash and will conduct a full investigation.

A crane was to remove the wreckage Thursday morning.

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[https://www.news-journal.com/news/county/gregg/diana-trucker-involved-in-railroad-fatality-in-arkansas/article\\_b0df839e-78a9-11e8-99b5-3752c2bbbbba5.html](https://www.news-journal.com/news/county/gregg/diana-trucker-involved-in-railroad-fatality-in-arkansas/article_b0df839e-78a9-11e8-99b5-3752c2bbbbba5.html)

# Diana trucker involved in railroad fatality in Arkansas

- [Glenn Evans](#) Jun 25, 2018

Arkansas police are investigating a fatal train-truck collision that took the life of a train worker last week and involved a Diana truck driver.

Trucker Jesse Richard Bingham, 80, told Arkansas authorities he saw no lights or warning signal as he drove an 18-wheeler carrying a load of metal pipes toward a railroad crossing in Little Rock, an Arkansas Motor Vehicle report on the 9:09 a.m. Thursday crash said.

The Little Rock Port Authority train had been pushing eight cars south with two men serving as spotters for the engineer backing the line toward a crossing with Frazier Pike.

The men signaled the engineer to begin emergency braking when it became clear the 18-wheeler was not stopping at the crossing. Both men leapt from the rear car, and the ensuing collision forced the rear car off the tracks and onto one of the spotters.

Donald Melton, 62, of Austin, Arkansas, was pronounced dead at the scene, the crash report said.

It reported that Bingham had just picked up the load of pipe from a nearby yard, that Bingham passed a blood-alcohol breath test at a local hospital and that a urine analysis is pending.

The collision remains under investigation, the report says.