

Urbandale Police Department

Media Release

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Topic: A 64-year-old Urbandale man dies in accident at Bulk Mail Center

On Wednesday, August 20, 2008, at approximately 7:34 A.M., Urbandale Police responded to the Bulk Mail Center (4000 109th St. Urbandale, IA) on report on a U.S. Postal worker being fatally injured. Upon arrival, officers found 64-year-old Lee Harry Spencer of Urbandale, IA, lying deceased on the ground near a 2006 Capacity semi truck tractor and trailers.

Investigating officers determined that the victim was working at the Bulk Mail Center at the time of his death. Lee Spencer was last seen alive at approximately 6:34 A.M. when he was dispatched to move a particular trailer to a specific loading dock location. At approximately 7:30 A.M. coworkers realized that Spencer had not been seen since his latest assignment, so another employee was sent to try and find him. The employee discovered Spencer lying dead on the ground in the area of a 2006 Capacity semi truck tractor and trailer that was backed against a light pole (still running and in reverse).

Urbandale Police accident investigators determined that Spencer had been driving the 2006 Capacity semi truck tractor and hooked up to the trailer he was assigned to move. Spencer apparently exited the truck for unknown reasons, leaving the vehicle running and in reverse. The semi truck tractor backed over Spencer, killing him instantly. Investigators checked the truck tractor and determined that it was in proper working order, and that the accident appeared to be caused by operator error.

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