Construction Zones Are Danger Zones

The driver of a flat deck truck loaded with bricks was killed when the vehicle hit a soft shoulder, went out of control, crossed into oncoming traffic and collided head-on with a tractor-trailer.

The incident occurred in a construction zone. Although the driver was familiar with the route, it was different that night. Because of the construction project, there were unmarked lanes and changes in the levels of the asphalt between lanes. It appears he thought he was driving in the passing lane, when in fact he was driving on the center shoulder of the divided highway. The road was bare and dry, the traffic was light, and there was no evidence of mechanical failure, alcohol use or other contributing factors.

Construction zones are danger zones – whether they are on highways, on new building sites or renovation areas in existing buildings. When construction is under way, things may not be as they appear. Pay strict attention to warning signs and move with caution. A familiar area becomes unfamiliar and dangerous when construction is under way.