



**WESTMORELAND COUNTY  
OFFICE OF THE CORONER**

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Paul B. Cycak, Jr.  
Chief Deputy

**Kenneth A. Bacha**  
Coroner

Jeffrey D. Monzo  
Solicitor

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 14, 2017**

<u>Nature of Release:</u> Line of Duty Death	<u>Date and Time of Incident:</u> July 14, 2017 2:15 AM
<u>Incident Location:</u> State Route 711 near intersection with State Route 271 Ligonier Township	
<u>Person(s) Involved:</u> <b>Decedent:</b> Trooper Michael P. Stewart, 26 y/o male Address: Unity Township  <b>Date and Time of Death:</b> July 14, 2017 at 3:10 AM	
<b><u>Incident Details:</u> Cause of Death: Blunt Force Trauma of the Head Due to: Two Vehicle Collision</b>  <b>Manner of Death: Accidental</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Westmoreland County Coroner, Kenneth A. Bacha, regrets to release the following information on a line of duty death.</li><li>▪ Trooper Michael P. Stewart was the operator with a second trooper of a 2016, Ford Interceptor, marked patrol vehicle.</li><li>▪ Trooper Stewart was traveling south on State Route 711 in the area of State Route 271.</li><li>▪ A 2002, International, rear loading garbage truck, was exiting a parking lot and attempting to make a left turn onto State Route 711 north.</li><li>▪ Trooper Stewart's patrol vehicle collided with the driver's side of the garbage truck.</li><li>▪ Trooper Stewart was entrapped in the patrol vehicle.</li><li>▪ Deputy Coroner Joshua C. Zappone pronounced Trooper Stewart dead at the scene.</li><li>▪ Trooper Stewart was utilizing a seat-belt.</li><li>▪ Air bags deployed within the patrol vehicle.</li><li>▪ An autopsy was performed on this date by Dr. Cyril H. Wecht and Pathology Associates.</li><li>▪ Toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.</li><li>▪ Lopatich Funeral Home of Latrobe are in charge of arrangements.</li><li>▪ Pennsylvania State Police Greensburg Barracks also investigated and will release additional details at their discretion.</li></ul>	
<b>***** <u>No further information is available from this office at this time.</u> *****</b>	