



**WESTMORELAND COUNTY  
OFFICE OF THE CORONER**

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John F. Swartz  
Chief Deputy

**Kenneth A. Bacha**  
Coroner

Jeffrey D. Monzo  
Solicitor

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 23, 2017**

<u>Nature of Release:</u> Motor Vehicle Fatality	<u>Date and Time of Incident:</u> December 23, 2017 12:18 PM
<u>Incident Location:</u> State Route 711, approximately ½ mile south of Palmer Drive Ligonier Township	
<u>Person(s) Involved:</u> <b>Decedent:</b> Ryan J. Lute, 28 y/o male Address: Old Route 711 Cook Township  Date and Time of Death: December 23, 2017 at 1:22 PM	
<u>Incident Details:</u> <b>Cause of Death: Blunt Force Trauma to the Head and Torso</b> <b>Due to: Single Vehicle Collision</b>  <b>Manner of Death: Accidental</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Westmoreland County Coroner, Kenneth A. Bacha, has released the following information on a motor vehicle fatality that occurred in Ligonier Township.</li><li>▪ The decedent, Ryan J. Lute, was the operator and lone occupant of a 2006, GMS Sierra, traveling south on State Route 711.</li><li>▪ The vehicle traveled off the roadway striking multiple trees, overturning, and coming to rest on it's roof.</li><li>▪ Deputy Coroner Jonathon W. Jenkins pronounced the decedent dead at the scene.</li><li>▪ Speed is believed to have been a factor in the incident.</li><li>▪ A seat-belt was not utilized by the decedent.</li><li>▪ Air bags did deploy in the decedent's vehicle.</li><li>▪ Cell phone use was determined not to be a factor in the incident.</li><li>▪ The cause and manner of death is reflected above.</li><li>▪ Toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.</li><li>▪ Snyder Funeral Home of Ligonier will be in charge of arrangements.</li><li>▪ Ligonier Township Police also investigated the incident.</li></ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>****No further information is available at this time**</b></p>	