



**WESTMORELAND COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE CORONER**

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Kirk E. Nolan
Chief Deputy

Kenneth A. Bacha
Coroner

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Solicitor

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 1, 2021

<u>Nature of Release:</u> Motor Vehicle Fatalities	<u>Date/Time of Incident:</u> July 31, 2021 Approximately 5:43 PM
<u>Incident Location:</u> 485 Agnew Road Hempfield Township	
<u>Decedent:</u> Catherine M. Gardner, 58 y/o female <u>Address:</u> Scott Avenue, City of Jeannette <u>Date and Time of Death:</u> July 31, 2021 at 6:35 PM <u>Cause of Death:</u> Blunt Force Trauma of the Head & Torso <u>Due to:</u> Single Vehicle Collision <u>Manner of Death:</u> Accidental	<u>Decedent:</u> Walter J. Gardner, 61 y/o male <u>Address:</u> Scott Avenue, City of Jeannette <u>Date and Time of Death:</u> July 31, 2021 at 6:36 PM <u>Cause of Death:</u> Blunt Force Trauma of the Head & Torso <u>Due to:</u> Single Vehicle Collision <u>Manner of Death:</u> Accidental
<u>Incident Details:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Westmoreland County Coroner, Kenneth A. Bacha, has released the following information on a motor vehicle collision that occurred in Hempfield Township.▪ Walter J. Gardner was the operator with passenger, Catherine M. Gardner, of a 2001, Ford F-150, traveling north on Agnew Road.▪ For an unknown reason, the vehicle left the roadway, traveled down an embankment into a wooded area, rolled over, and came to rest upright in a small creek.▪ Deputy Coroner John A. Ackerman pronounced both decedents dead at the scene.▪ The decedents were not utilizing a seat-belt at the time of the incident.▪ Air bags did deploy within the vehicle.▪ Cellular phone use is not believed to have been a factor in the incident.▪ Cause and manner of death are reflected above.▪ Toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.▪ A funeral home has not been chosen for either decedent.▪ Pennsylvania State Police Greensburg Barracks also investigated.	
<u>****No further information is available at this time****</u>	