



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

Brendan F. Kelly - Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 28, 2022

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ILLINOIS STATE POLICE MAKE AN ARREST FOR AGGRAVATED DISTRACTED DRIVING

Downers Grove, IL – The Illinois State Police (ISP) District 15 Investigations Agents arrested Frank Hightower III, a 53-year-old male of Rockford, IL for Aggravated Use of an Electronic Communication Device Causing a Death (Class 4 Felony).

On February 1, 2022, at approximately 8:40 p.m., ISP District 15 Troopers responded to investigate a fatal traffic crash involving two vehicles on Interstate 88 westbound near Milepost 81, Rochelle, Ogle County. A white Kenworth Truck-Tractor traveling westbound on Interstate 88 struck the rear of a black Nissan. The driver of the black Nissan was transported to an area hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

During the course of the investigation, Agents discovered the driver of white Kenworth Truck-Tractor, Frank Hightower III, was unlawfully using an electronic communication device while driving at time of the crash.

On June 28, 2022, the Ogle County State's Attorney Office approved one count of Aggravated Use of an Electronic Communication Device Causing a Death against Hightower. Hightower was taken into custody in Rockford, Illinois and remains in custody at the Ogle County Jail on a bond set by the court at \$100,000/10% to apply. There is no further information available.



Frank Hightower III (M/53)

The public is reminded that all persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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