



John A. Chisholm
Fire Chief

CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™
Fire Department



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Concord Fire Department Responds to Multiple Accidents on I-89 in Concord and Hopkinton

CONCORD, NH, February 28, 2025 – At 6:43 a.m., Concord Fire Department was dispatched to Interstate 89 Southbound in Concord between Exits 3 and 2 for the report of a Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA). On arrival, companies found multiple rear-end collisions spanning an 800 yard stretch of highway. Drivers cited that intense sun glare reflected by the wet roadway was a contributing cause of the accidents.

The initial accident caused other vehicles to brake quickly or strike the vehicle in front of them, leading to nine (9) vehicles suffering major damage or being destroyed. Due to the scope of the incident and the extreme danger to crews working on the scene, Interstate 89 Southbound was shut down north of the scene for approximately 45 minutes.

The incident commander requested additional ambulance and engine companies to respond to the scene. In total, Concord Fire Department responded with 16 Firefighters staffing 3 Ambulances, 2 Engines, 1 Tower, and the on-duty Battalion Chief. This tied up most of Concord Fire Department's on-duty resources for a considerable amount of time to handle this major incident.

A total of three (3) patients were transported to Concord Hospital, two (2) with significant injuries.

At 7:17 a.m., while crews were clearing the accident scene, Hopkinton Fire Department was dispatched to a multi-car MVA involving a large truck and several vehicles, in the south bound lane of I-89, approximately 1.5 miles north of the original accident in Concord. Concord Fire Department sent units to assist Hopkinton with extricating one (1) patient trapped in a vehicle, and transporting a second patient from the same accident.

The second accident involved multiple cars with significant damage, including an empty log truck that was struck from behind. The bright sun and the sudden braking of multiple vehicles was also cited as a contributing factor in this incident.



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Two (2) vehicles were destroyed in this incident, and the log truck suffered significant damage. As with the first accident, this incident also led to I-89 being shut down at this location while emergency crews worked to extricate the patient trapped in their vehicle.

Concord Fire Department and Hopkinton Fire Department were both assisted by NH State Police, Hopkinton Police, NH DOT, Henniker Fire Department, and multiple tow companies.

The Concord Fire Department would like to remind drivers to reduce speeds when operating in conditions where sun glare is present and to slow down and be patient with emergency crews operating at motor vehicle accidents on roadways. Driver distraction while passing accidents greatly jeopardizes the safety of crews working at accident scenes. We ask that you focus attention on the flow of traffic and your vehicle's path of travel.

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If you require further information about this incident, please contact Deputy Chief Mark Hebert at 603-230-3803, or mhebert@concordnh.gov.