

State troopers have arrested a tractor-trailer driver after a fiery crash on I-95 in Wilson County that took the lives of five people Wednesday afternoon. News reports indicate that speeding was a factor in the collision.

"Sadly, this is one of the worst highway tragedies in North Carolina history," expressed attorney Forest Horne. "In our experience, collisions like these are 100 percent preventable and often caused by a lack of training and/or vehicle maintenance and unfortunately, gross driver neglect."

The crash involved two additional tractor-trailers and two automobiles. It was reported that 51-year-old Charles Haskell, of Las Vegas, Nevada, failed to slow for a lane closure at about mile marker 113 in Kenly. He collided first with a 2013 Chevy Tahoe. He proceeded to collide with a 2017 Toyota Rav-4 and two tractor-trailers before his tractor-trailer stopped and caught on fire. The highway was closed for more than eight hours.

The five deaths were all elderly occupants of the automobiles. Haskell and the two other truck drivers were treated and released. Haskell was arrested upon his release with a \$25,000 bond.

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