

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John R. Batiste**

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**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date:** March 28, 2010  
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## Wrong Way Driver Killed on I-5 in Tacoma

The wrong way driver nearly collided with several motorists including a State Trooper attempting to alert the driver that he was going the wrong way.

60-year-old Melvin Stuefen was driving northbound I-5 in a 2006 Peterbilt semi-truck hauling approximately 59,000 pounds of cargo. Stuefen could not do anything to avoid being struck head-on by Felt. The collision occurred northbound I-5 just south of Berkely St. Stuefen was not injured in the collision. Felt drove approximately 6 miles the wrong way on the freeway before the collision.

State Troopers arrived at the collision just after it occurred. Medical personnel arrived and after attempting life saving measures Felt was pronounced deceased at the collision scene. Three lanes of southbound I-5 were blocked while Troopers completed their investigation. It has not been determined at this time if alcohol and/or drugs were involved. Felt was not wearing a seatbelt.

The Washington State Patrol works diligently to remind drivers the importance of wearing a seatbelt. Please remember to always wear your seatbelt.

**\*\*\*Next of kin has been notified\*\*\***

