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ESSEX POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Date: May 21, 2025
Case Number: 25ES003530

Narrative: On Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 4:20am, Essex Police responded to the railroad tracks located parallel to Railroad Street between Main Street and Maple Street in the city of Essex Junction, Vermont for a report of a male found deceased on the railroad tracks.

Preliminary investigation revealed that a southbound New England Central Railroad freight train pulling 83 cars traveled through that location on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at approximately 11:35pm and struck the male causing fatal injuries. The train engineer was unaware of the incident and the train continued to its destination without stopping. New England Central Railroad were notified and have been cooperating with the investigation.

The deceased male has been identified as Shiloh Malzac (44) of Essex Junction. Railroad Street was closed for nearly 3-1/2 hours while investigators processed the scene. The railroad was notified to stop all train traffic throughout the duration of the investigation. Essex Westford School District was notified and requested to advise families and students to avoid the area while the scene was processed. Investigators were on scene until approximately 8:00am.

Essex Junction Fire Department assisted with traffic control, and scene clean up. Williston Police also assisted with traffic control and scene security. Essex Rescue responded and were able to go back into service.

The deceased was transported to the office of the Chief Medical Examiner for an autopsy.

As the investigation is continuing, Essex Police are requesting anyone who may have observed any people walking in the area of the railroad tracks near the location of the incident between 7:30pm and 11:30pm, or with other related information, to contact police.

Issued by: Detective Sgt. Dunn
Contact: Detective Cpl. Williger