



**WESTMORELAND COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE CORONER**

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Kirk E. Nolan
Chief Deputy

Kenneth A. Bacha
Coroner

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Solicitor

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2021

<u>Nature of Release:</u> Motor Vehicle Fatality	<u>Date and Time of Incident:</u> April 2, 2021 7:12 PM
<u>Incident Location:</u> State Route 136 near Lower Lane Hempfield Township	
<u>Person(s) Involved:</u> Decedent: Joann Wardezak, 58 y/o female Address: Wolfe Lane Sewickley Township Date and Time of Death: April 2, 2021 at 8:00 PM	
<u>Incident Details:</u> Cause of Death: Pending Manner of Death: Pending <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Westmoreland County Coroner, Kenneth A. Bacha, has released the following information on a motor vehicle collision that occurred in Hempfield Township.▪ The decedent, Joann Wardezak, was the front right occupant of a 2000, Honda Insight, traveling east on State Route 136.▪ For an unknown reason, a 2008, Chevrolet Malibu, traveling west on State Route 136 crossed the centerline into the opposite lane of travel and struck the Honda Insight.▪ Deputy Coroner John A. Ackerman pronounced the decedent dead at the scene.▪ The decedent was not utilizing a seatbelt at the time of the incident.▪ Air bags did deploy in the decedent's vehicle.▪ Cell phone use being a factor in the incident is unknown at this time.▪ An autopsy will be performed by Dr. Cyril H. Wecht and Pathology Associates.▪ Cause and manner of death will be pending autopsy and toxicology results.▪ Toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.▪ A funeral home has not been chosen at this time.▪ Pennsylvania State Police Greensburg Barracks also investigated.	
****No further information is available at this time****	