



**CRASH INFORMATION AND SUMMARY**  
**Decatur, Tennessee**

**HWY21FH001**

(2 pages)

## CRASH INFORMATION

**Location:** Southbound on Tennessee State Route 58 (SR-58) near Decatur, in Meigs County, Tennessee

**Vehicle #1:** 2018 Freightliner/Iowa Mold Tooling service truck

**Operator:** 56-year-old male

**Carrier:** Service Electric Company

**Vehicle #2:** 2013 Thomas Built 78-passenger school bus

**Operator:** 53-year-old female, 33 student passengers

**Carrier:** Meigs County School District

**Date / Time:** October 27, 2020 at 3:45 p.m. EDT

## CRASH SUMMARY

On Tuesday, October 27, 2020, about 3:45 p.m. eastern daylight time, a two-vehicle collision occurred in the southbound lane of State Route 58 (SR-58) in Decatur, Meigs County, Tennessee. In that area, the highway has one lane in each direction. The lanes are separated by a double yellow centerline, with rumble stripes milled along the edges of both lanes. The highway has a posted speed limit of 55 mph.

A 2013 Thomas Built transit-style school bus was southbound on SH-58, carrying 33 K-12 students home from school. At the same time, a 2018 Freightliner truck, configured as a service vehicle for a local utility company and equipped with a boom arm, was traveling north. In the 7700 block of SH-58, the truck drifted off the right edge of the pavement and the right tires went into the ditch. The truck driver reported that it happened while he looked in his mirror. As the driver reentered the roadway, the truck yawed counterclockwise and crossed into the southbound lane, in front of the school bus. The bus collided with the right side of the truck, between the rear axle and the front of the utility box and hit the right side of the boom arm. The bus came to rest in the southbound lane. The truck continued across the highway into the trees, coming to rest, off the west side of the road.

The 53-year-old school bus driver and a 7-year-old passenger seated directly behind her were fatally injured. Four other school bus passengers sustained serious injuries, 10 sustained minor injuries and 18 were uninjured or their injury level was unknown. The truck driver was not injured. The school bus was not equipped with passenger seat belts.