

## Tractor-trailer driver charged with DWI

Written by

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A tractor-trailer accident on 321 near Aho Road just before nine a.m. has been blamed on speed and alcohol.

37-year-old Gerald Hicks Jr. of South Carolina was traveling towards Boone from Blowing Rock when he hit the curve too fast, Trooper Chris Morgan says. The truck overturned and hit a guardrail, blocking rush hour traffic. Hicks was transported to Watauga Medical Center and is expected to recover. He has been charged with driving while impaired, driving a commercial vehicle while impaired and exceeding a safe speed. Morgan says his blood alcohol was approximately twice the legal limit. No other vehicles were involved in the crash, and rescue workers worked quickly and efficiently to clear lanes for traffic within an hour.