

Worker dies, longshoreman hurt in crashes at Port Everglades

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A cargo company supervisor driving a golf cart died Monday at Port Everglades when the cart and a truck collided — one of two accidents at the port that day, a county official said.

The supervisor was driving the golf cart for Sun Terminals. The truck, called a yard mule, moves containers from docks to storage areas. It struck the open cart, Port Everglades spokeswoman Ellen Kennedy said.

The worker in the cart fell out and was run over, a Broward Sheriff's Office spokeswoman said. The agency said it would withhold the worker's name until relatives were notified.

The worker was liked and respected on the cargo side of Port Everglades. The whole port community is grieving for the family," Kennedy said.

She said Rev. Ronald Perkins, a chaplain for Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue and at Seafarers' House, which serves the maritime community, was providing counseling. The driver of the yard mule, an employee for Crowley Maritime Corporation, was "very shook up," according to Kennedy.

It was the second tragedy this year for Sun Terminals. In February, an employee was walking as his shift ended when he was struck by a tractor-trailer and died.

Earlier Monday, a longshoreman was hurt when his truck fell on its side. The longshoreman, a member of Local 1526 who works for Florida International Terminal, was in a yard mule truck during the crash, Kennedy said.

"The truck driver was in the cab when he was hurt," Kennedy said. "He struck a piece of heavy equipment, part of a crane, and the truck rolled on its side."

The yard mule was carrying a fully loaded container that held granite and iron bars, according to preliminary reports, Kennedy said. The container had been unloaded from the Elisabeth-S, a Hamburg-Sud ship that docked at the port at 6 a.m. Monday.

Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue took the injured man to Broward Health Medical Center, where he was treated for minor injuries and released, Kennedy said.

