

## Felecia Ann Pearson Fatally Injured And Possible Cause Not Discussed

*Posting Date: 05 May 2011*

Felecia Ann Pearson was a 21-year-old driver of a Ford passenger car when she was tragically killed on Tuesday afternoon, May 3rd, 2011. The news media report that her westbound vehicle travelled through a stop sign on Concession #8 at its intersection with Wellington Road #9 south east of Palmerston, Ontario.

The news media reported that she "failed to stop for a stop sign" but that is debatable. Let's look at the site.

The photo below is looking west and was taken from 150 metres east of the intersection. Pearson was westbound on this Concession Road and this view shows that the line of sight to the north or south along Wellington Road #9 appears to be relatively unobstructed.



Just ahead of this view you should see the last of five rumble strips that were milled into the road surface to help drivers "wake up" to the fact that they are approaching a stop sign.

The photo below is also from 150 metres east of the POI but I turned my camera more to the south so that you can appreciate the relatively open view on approach to the intersection. The Pick-up truck that struck Ms. Pearson's vehicle was northbound on that intersecting road.



In the photo below I show you the characteristic rumble strip located at 136 metres east of the point of impact (POI).



My experience has been that these rumble strips do an excellent job of waking up a driver and I believe that very few drivers actually drive through a stop sign whenever such rumble strips are in place. So I am rather skeptical when I hear the news media indicate that Ms. Pearson travelled through the stop sign without stopping.

I become more skeptical when I get to the intersection and look to the south in the manner that Ms. Pearson would likely have to do in order to determine whether it was safe to enter the intersection. The photo below shows what she might have seen as she looked to her left (south).



Depending on the actual vertical position of her eyes the post, and more importantly, the signs on the post could have obscured her vision of northbound vehicles along a considerable time and distance.

Below is another view of the post and signs.



And finally a slightly different view.



Now, call me a conspiracy theorist, paranoid or whatever. But why would this very obvious issue not be reported in the media. They were not told about it by the police? Obviously I don't know.

But here is an issue where this young woman may be blamed for "not yielding the right of way" as is done so often in police investigations, yet roadway flaws, whether geometric, signage or maintenance, are simply whisked aside as if they never existed. Why are these signs located on this post. Why is the post there? Does no one understand that you cannot block a driver's line of sight at an intersection? Will the signs remain there until the next victim comes along because no one has bothered to identify their existence and relevance?

I simply cringe.