

Warren Reporter 7/13/12
H'town man dies after lying in front of train

Victor Motyka
By Kathryn Brenzel/
The Express-Times

Family members of a man hit and killed by a train Friday night in Hackettstown said they are unsure of what led up to his death.

Authorities on Tuesday identified Victor Motyka, 50, as the man killed by a westbound train just before 11 p.m. Friday. Motyka was lying on the tracks just east of the Willow Grove Street crossing and didn't react when the train engineer sounded the horn, a NJ Transit spokeswoman said.

The engineer spotted Motyka and applied the brakes, but couldn't stop the train in time, she said.

Motyka's stepbrother, Michael Kelly, said he has not heard more from authorities about what happened Friday. Officials said the incident is still under investigation.

Kelly described his stepbrother as an outdoorsman, but noted that Motyka wasn't without problems.

"He was a bit troubled," he said. "But he liked camping. He liked fishing."

Motyka, a lifelong Warren County resident, enjoyed fishing

in various streams around Hackettstown, where he lived with friends, Kelly said. Motyka worked in various construction jobs, in Hackettstown, Blairstown Township and Washington, sometimes with Kelly. He spent his spare time outdoors, camping and fishing, Kelly said.

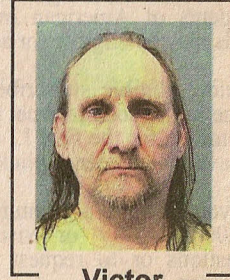
He also had a few encounters with law enforcement. Motyka's criminal record dates back to at least 1982. He's been arrested on a slew of charges in Warren County, including aggravated assault, burglary, drug possession, resisting

arrest and weapon possession.

He served time in Warren County Jail in 2011 for threatening and lunging at three Hackettstown police officers who were trying to arrest him for disorderly conduct. In 1990, he was sentenced to five years in New Jersey State Prison for assaulting his girlfriend at the time. He went to jail for stealing a pizza delivery vehicle in 1995.

Though "a little troubled," Motyka had strong ties to his home, Kelly said.

"He had a lot of friends," he said.



Victor
Motyka

Newspaper and Date : Warren Reporter, 13 July, 2012

Name of Deceased : Victor Moytka

Date of Death : July, 2012