

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

* * * * *

Investigation of: *

*

CAPSIZE AND SINKING OF STRETCH DUCK 7 *

ON TABLE ROCK LAKE, BRANSON, MISSOURI, * Accident No.: DCA18MM028

JULY 19, 2018 *

*

* * * * *

Interview of: [REDACTED]

Passenger

Cox Medical Center
Branson, Missouri

Friday,
July 20, 2018

APPEARANCES:

SGT. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP)

DENISE COLLINS
([REDACTED] grandmother)

I N D E X

ITEM

PAGE

Interview of [REDACTED]

By Sergeant [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

4

I N T E R V I E W

(8:55 p.m.)

1
2
3 SGT. [REDACTED] All right. Today is July 20th, 2018. I've
4 got about, can't read it -- 8:55 in the evening here, 2055 hours.
5 We're at the Cox, Branson, and with me is [REDACTED]

6 INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED]

7 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

8 Q. And, [REDACTED] what is your middle initial?

9 A. [REDACTED]

10 Q. [REDACTED]

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And what's your date of birth?

13 A. [REDACTED].

14 Q. [REDACTED] of --

15 A. [REDACTED].

16 Q. [REDACTED].

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. And how old are you?

19 A. [REDACTED]

20 Q. [REDACTED] years of age. And what is your address? Where do
21 you live?

22 A. Okay. We just moved --

23 MS. DENISE COLLINS: They just moved. They live in [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

25 MS. [REDACTED] No. It's [REDACTED] [REDACTED] --

1 MS. DENISE COLLINS: It's [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Yeah.

2 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

3 Q. Well, what --

4 A. [REDACTED]

5 Q. [REDACTED]?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And tell me your family. Who is dad and mom, stuff like
8 that.

9 A. Okay. My dad is Shayne Collins. And my mom is
10 Amanda Kelleher.

11 Q. And she isn't here though, right?

12 A. No, sir.

13 Q. Dad is Shayne Collins. And is the stepmom is --

14 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Tiffany.

15 SGT. [REDACTED] Tiffany?

16 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Yes. She's here. And she has a
17 stepdad.

18 SGT. [REDACTED] All right.

19 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

20 Q. And then do you have brother and sister, then? Do you have a
21 brother or sister here?

22 A. I do, but -- oh, yes, that, my stepbrother and sister.

23 Q. They're step then?

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. All right. So do you have a phone number? Or do you have a

1 phone? Or is it --

2 MS. DENISE COLLINS: She does.

3 MS. [REDACTED] But it's not working.

4 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

5 Q. It's not working. Is the best way to get a hold of you
6 through Shayne then, I guess, then?

7 A. Or my mom.

8 Q. Or your mom.

9 MS. DENISE COLLINS: We're taking her back on the weekend,
10 and we'll probably come back --

11 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

12 Q. So what's a good way to get back hold of you if we needed to
13 have it?

14 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Do you want me to give him my phone
15 number until we get home?

16 MS. [REDACTED] Yeah.

17 SGT. [REDACTED] That's fine.

18 MS. DENISE COLLINS: And then when we get home, we give him
19 her mom's.

20 SGT. [REDACTED] Okay. That's fine.

21 MS. DENISE COLLINS: It's [REDACTED].

22 SGT. [REDACTED] And just a good way to get a hold of you.
23 And what is your name, ma'am?

24 MS. DENISE COLLINS: My name is Denise Collins. I'm Shayne's
25 mom, her grandmom.

1 SGT. [REDACTED] Denise Collins?

2 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Um-hum.

3 SGT. [REDACTED] Okay.

4 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

5 Q. All right. And what I understand is is you, everybody kind
6 of came in from either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] yesterday here?

7 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Yes, sir.

8 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

9 Q. And then you, kind of, went to the *Titanic*, I guess; is that
10 right? Is that right?

11 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Yes.

12 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

13 Q. *Titanic*?

14 A. Oh, we went to the *Titanic* Museum.

15 Q. *Titanic* Museum. There you go. That's what I'm getting at.

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. And then after that you went to do the ducks thing, right?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. Tell me what you remember when you got to the ducks.

20 A. Okay. So we were driving on the road and then we went into
21 the water, and --

22 Q. Okay. Well, I mean, as far as, like, when you got to the
23 ducks, do you remember --

24 A. Oh.

25 Q. -- them talking about the weather?

1 A. Oh, I do. They said -- I remember that we were in line. And
2 the guy said there's a lightning effect, or whatever it's called.

3 Q. Sun, yeah.

4 A. And they went, but they went ahead and let us go on the
5 boats.

6 Q. So you got on the boat?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. And do you remember, what do you remember getting on the
9 boats? Do you remember talking about lifejackets or anything on
10 the boat?

11 A. Yes. The, the captain was, see, like telling us how to put
12 it on.

13 Q. But that was a demonstration, though, right?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Was that before you got in the water?

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. And then the captain was doing the demonstration of life
18 jackets. And then one guy drove out there, right?

19 A. Yes, sir.

20 Q. And then somebody else ended up driving into the water.

21 A. So --

22 Q. Do you remember that?

23 A. Yes, sir. And they also let kids drive the boat a little
24 bit.

25 Q. Yeah.

1 A. So it was my little stepbrother first, I think, was it --
2 yeah, I think it was my little stepbrother, and then my little
3 step-cousin. Then they let the actual person drive the boat.

4 Q. So you go into -- you drive into the water. And where were
5 you sitting at on the boat?

6 A. More towards the back, I think.

7 Q. Were you on the right? If you're looking -- if you're in the
8 boat, and you're looking forward, are you on the right side or the
9 left side?

10 A. I was on the left side.

11 Q. You were on the left side. So it, when the boat started to
12 fill, it filled, it was on the other side from you. Is that
13 right?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. So you were on the left side. Who were you sitting beside?

16 A. I was sitting by my step-cousin, [REDACTED]

17 Q. [REDACTED]

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And so, you remember going down the road, starting in the
20 water and everything seemed normal at first. Is that right?

21 A. Yes. But I had a very bad feeling once it started raining
22 and stuff. And the rain was -- so they put down the windows so
23 water wouldn't get in, the rain. And then waves started coming
24 and like getting, you know, really strong. And then waves started
25 coming in the boat. And like I had started crying, but my

1 stepsister said everything's going to be okay. Even though it
2 wasn't going to be okay.

3 Q. Right.

4 A. And so, the boat started sinking. And I remember there was a
5 boat like, it there was up here. It was like kind of --

6 Q. So you remember the boat kind of filling in the back to the
7 right first?

8 A. Yes. Yes. And --

9 Q. Do you remember seeing the captain do anything?

10 A. No sign.

11 Q. Not really?

12 A. I really don't. But I was panicking myself. I do remember
13 seeing this little boy in a green shirt. You know, I wanted to
14 help him when I found him, but I couldn't.

15 Q. I'm sorry. Do you remember how you got out?

16 A. Yes. We didn't know that the -- so the boat, like, filled up
17 all the way. And I didn't know if the top was off yet. But I
18 think like for a couple of seconds it wasn't up yet and the water
19 was filled completely up because my head was hitting the top of
20 the roof. But that couple of seconds felt like 10 minutes to me.
21 But I finally got to the top, which felt like it took forever,
22 even though realistically it didn't. And then I got my head up
23 above and I saw my dad. And my dad was helping me, like, you
24 know, telling me you can do it.

25 Q. So you got to the top of the water?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. Did you have to kind of get out from underneath the roof a
3 little bit or something?

4 A. No, sir. I just had to keep -- I just literally just swam.

5 Q. Just swam, just swam up.

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. Okay. And but you got pulled down in the water a little ways
8 then; is that right?

9 A. Yes, sir. It was really scary.

10 Q. And then you made it to the top, and you see who?

11 A. I see my dad. But no one else. I honest, I wasn't looking
12 for anyone.

13 Q. How did you get out? I mean, how did you get -- to a boat or
14 did you go to the land?

15 A. Well, so, you know, the boat and then they have the
16 steamboat, I think it is.

17 Q. Yeah. Yeah.

18 A. Well, this guy -- so, I got there, and my hand was, I was
19 holding onto the rope and I was getting really weak. But they
20 were helping me and they were holding me. And they got my dad out
21 of the water, and then my dad was helping me. And I think it was
22 this paramedic lady, but she -- because I couldn't move or
23 anything because I was really weak. And then this guy finally
24 said you'll need to move and get in something, because the waves
25 were getting really strong and stuff. So --

1 Q. So you got in on the boat, the big boat then; is that right?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. Did you go to the paddle wheel? Is that where you ended up?

4 Or did you go just off to the side, or --

5 A. The paddle.

6 Q. The big paddle thing that turned on the back? Some people

7 kind of went there. You don't remember -- you didn't go there?

8 A. I think it was like to, kind of towards that. You know what

9 looked like a boardwalk way?

10 Q. Yeah.

11 A. I was kind of where that was.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. And I was holding onto this string. Like --

14 Q. The cable?

15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. Okay. All right. But you never put a life jacket on or

17 anything like that?

18 A. No, sir. It happened so fast.

19 Q. All right. And nobody said anything, captain never said

20 anything about get your life jackets on or --

21 A. Nope.

22 Q. -- anything like that?

23 A. Not that I recall. I never heard him say anything.

24 Q. All right.

25 A. He didn't even tell us the roof came up.

1 Q. All right. Well, I think that's all that I have. I don't
2 know that I have -- need to contact you anymore, but I'd like to
3 keep that option open then.

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. Okay?

6 A. Okay.

7 Q. All right. I'm very sorry that this happened to you.

8 A. It's okay.

9 Q. Okay?

10 A. Thank you.

11 Q. All right. Well, thank you very much. Okay?

12 A. Thank you.

13 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Well, I was just going to say, you said
14 they come in yesterday. They came in Wednesday.

15 You all came in on Wednesday. You all left my house Tuesday.
16 You come in Tuesday night, and you all got here on Wednesday.

17 MS. [REDACTED] Oh, yeah. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] got here
18 Wednesday.

19 MS. DENISE COLLINS: And I don't know if it matters. I was
20 just thinking, no, that's not -- and I, I don't -- I guess you've
21 talken, talked to the lady that she -- whose phone she used?

22 SGT. [REDACTED] I don't -- it's possible. I don't know. I
23 mean --

24 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Her name was Shelby.

25 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

1 Q. That you, when you got on the bank; is that what you're
2 talking about?

3 A. Yes.

4 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Yes. She grabbed this lady and called
5 her mom and told them. Her mom called me, because I had no idea.
6 I called that lady -- I said you give me that phone number, I'm
7 calling that lady back. And so I --

8 MS. [REDACTED] Oh, that was a different lady. That
9 wasn't Shelby, though. That was a different lady.

10 MS. DENISE COLLINS: No, I called Shelby. Shelby's --

11 MS. [REDACTED] Oh.

12 MS. DENISE COLLINS: -- the one I talked to.

13 MS. [REDACTED] Oh, okay.

14 SGT. [REDACTED] Okay.

15 MS. DENISE COLLINS: I just didn't know if you had talked to
16 her.

17 SGT. [REDACTED] I don't know. I mean --

18 MS. DENISE COLLINS: She would know more about what went on.
19 Because that's when she was more --

20 SGT. [REDACTED] It's all right.

21 MS. DENISE COLLINS: Yeah.

22 SGT. [REDACTED] We're just covering the basics here.

23 MS. DENISE COLLINS: I got it.

24 SGT. [REDACTED] Yeah, we're kind of -- all right?

25 Well, again, [REDACTED] I'm very sorry then, okay?

1 MS. [REDACTED] It's okay.
2 SGT. [REDACTED] All right.
3 MS. [REDACTED] Thank you.
4 SGT. [REDACTED] Thank you. And enjoy --
5 MS. [REDACTED] Thank you.
6 SGT. [REDACTED] All right. Thanks.
7 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

