

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of: *

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CAPSIZE AND SINKING OF STRETCH DUCK 7 *

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

JULY 19, 2018 *

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Interview of: [REDACTED]

Passenger

Cox Medical Center
Branson, Missouri

Friday,
July 20, 2018

APPEARANCES:

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

SHAYNE COLLINS
([REDACTED] stepfather)

I N D E X

ITEM

PAGE

Interview of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
By Sgt. [REDACTED]

4

I N T E R V I E W

(8:42 p.m.)

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2
3 SGT. [REDACTED] Today is July 20th, 2018. It is about 8:42
4 in the evening, 20:42 hours. With me is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED], [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

BY SGT. [REDACTED]

8 Q. What's your middle initial, [REDACTED]

9 A. [REDACTED]

10 Q. [REDACTED] And how old are you?

11 A. [REDACTED].

12 Q. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], just like [REDACTED] huh?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. [REDACTED]. That's not bad, huh?

15 A. Yeah.

16 SGT. [REDACTED] And dad, and you're dad, stepdad, right?

17 MR. COLLINS: Yes.

18 SGT. [REDACTED] All right. Just with him here. And how
19 would I get a hold of -- I mean, how, I get a hold of you, how
20 would I get a hold of you?

21 MR. COLLINS: Yeah. I'm actually using his phone right now.
22 Yeah. We don't have too many left after the incident. So --

23 SGT. [REDACTED] Sure.

24 MR. COLLINS: But he knows his number. You need to know my
25 name?

1 SGT. [REDACTED] Yeah. Stepdad.

2 MR. COLLINS: It's S-h-a-y-n-e, S-h-a-y-n-e, and G, Collins,
3 C-o-l-l-i-n-s.

4 SGT. [REDACTED] All right.

5 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

6 Q. So, [REDACTED] tell me a little bit about what you remember
7 yesterday.

8 MR. COLLINS: Do you want his cell number, before I forget?

9 SGT. [REDACTED] Yeah. Go ahead and give it to me.

10 [REDACTED] So, I remember --

11 MR. COLLINS: [REDACTED] give him your cell number --

12 SGT. [REDACTED] Give me your cell number.

13 MR. COLLINS: -- so we don't forget.

14 [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

15 SGT. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [sic]. Okay.

16 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

17 Q. So, tell me, what do you remember about yesterday getting on
18 the Ducks? Do you -- tell me what you recall when you got there.

19 A. Well --

20 Q. Start from there.

21 A. -- as soon as we got on the boat, the -- I didn't --

22 Q. Do you remember them talking, anything about the weather or
23 anything?

24 A. Yeah. I know, I heard them talking about them delaying it.
25 But then they said it should be fine and stuff. They said they

1 were just going to hit the water first, and try to avoid it.

2 Q. All right.

3 A. And then --

4 Q. Because it -- was there a storm coming?

5 A. Yeah, there was --

6 Q. Is that what they said?

7 A. There was, like -- yeah, they were saying there's a storm
8 coming, so we're just going to hit the water, we should miss it,
9 and then we'll do the land tour next. Because --

10 Q. All right.

11 A. -- usually we're supposed to the tour, land tour first.

12 Q. All right. Where were you sitting out on the, on -- or do
13 you remember? Were you on the --

14 A. Third row. I was right in the middle. There was two seats
15 in front, and two seats behind me.

16 Q. And were the black family kind of sitting in front of you?
17 Is that right?

18 A. They were sitting, I think, in the top, they were sitting in
19 one of the first rows on the left of me.

20 Q. Who were you sitting with?

21 A. Cayden, my cousin.

22 Q. Cayden. And were you on the left side or the right side if
23 you're looking at the back of the driver? You know?

24 A. No. I don't remember.

25 Q. All right. But you're sitting with Cayden, then?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. So you remember driving out there in the water. Is that
3 right? Driving to the water?

4 A. Yeah. I remember we were all driving out there. And then
5 the waves started getting high and it started hitting to the,
6 like, the window. I don't know if there was like a crack through
7 it at the bottom or something, but it -- all the -- when the
8 waters came in --

9 Q. And you didn't have a life jacket on or anything like that,
10 right?

11 A. No. He didn't really tell us what to -- he told us how to
12 put it on. But he didn't really tell us --

13 Q. In the -- was that in the beginning?

14 A. Yeah. He --

15 Q. When you were --

16 A. -- did in the beginning.

17 Q. -- driving out there? Yeah?

18 A. Yeah. He was telling us how.

19 Q. But when you got into the water, you didn't have -- put a
20 lifejacket on, you didn't have anything, they didn't tell you to
21 put it on?

22 A. Uh-uh. He, we didn't know when he popped the roof, really.
23 Or if --

24 Q. Okay. And even when things, the water started coming in
25 there, nobody said anything to you about putting a life jacket on.

1 Is that right?

2 A. Uh-uh. They just -- no one really told me, you know, what to
3 do.

4 Q. Okay. All right. So what do you remember when the water
5 started kind of coming through the window?

6 A. Well, when it was probably about like this, right here, to my
7 foot --

8 Q. Uh-huh.

9 A. -- we all thought it was just fun and games. Everyone was,
10 like, oh, yeah, this is probably just part of the ride. It's all
11 fun. And then it started getting a little under my knee, like
12 about right here. And then they all -- we all started panicking.
13 And then after that, it just went down really fast. And I don't
14 know if the roof came off because the pressure or that, but I know
15 as soon as we went under, I was swimming up, because I thought
16 there might be a little air at the very top. But I just kept
17 swimming, looking for the top of the boat. And I finally just
18 swam up to the air.

19 Q. Okay. And then you swam up to the top. Is that right?

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. Did you have flip flops on, too?

22 A. No, I was --

23 Q. Did you lose your shoes?

24 A. I was wearing shoes. So --

25 Q. You had tennis shoes?

1 A. Um-hum.

2 Q. So you could swim -- are you a pretty good swimmer?

3 A. Oh, yeah. We have a pool in our backyard.

4 Q. Okay. So you're a pretty good swimmer, and you had tennis
5 shoes on, then. Is that right?

6 A. Yes. It was -- made it a lot harder.

7 Q. Yeah. What -- so you swam up to the top. And then what
8 happened?

9 A. Well, I was trying to swim, and I, I couldn't really swim and
10 I kind of realized that. So I just tried to stay above water.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. And I let the waves throw me. Because they were throwing me
13 a pretty good distance. So finally --

14 Q. So you kind of like dog -- kind of like floating? You just
15 trying --

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. -- to float, float?

18 A. And then finally I flew -- I tried to get big boa but the
19 waves kept pushing me to the side. And finally there was people
20 throwing things, throwing life preservers out, and lifesavers. So
21 I kept trying to swim to that as fast as I could. And finally the
22 wave threw it enough to me where I could get on. And then I
23 floated to the little thing.

24 Q. So you grabbed the life preservers then?

25 A. Yeah. And then I got to the little bar. There was like a

1 metal bar coming from the boat to shore, kind of. And someone
2 pulled me up. And then a different person helped me --

3 Q. So you didn't, you didn't go to the boat. You went kind of
4 to the bank, and held onto --

5 A. I got separated from everybody.

6 Q. Okay. And then somebody pulled you up, then. Is that right?

7 A. And then they took me out and they gave me a cookie, dry
8 clothes -- well, I didn't get dry clothes till after. They just
9 gave me a blanket, and then just water and stuff.

10 Q. All right. You remember seeing anybody else and, when you
11 came up or anything?

12 A. I saw -- when I looked back to see if I could see my mom and
13 stuff, and I saw -- I don't know if he was -- they were trying to
14 save him or he was dead, but I'm pretty sure he was wearing a
15 green shirt. And like his legs were hanging. I don't know if
16 they were pulling him up and he was just like laying like that or
17 he was just dead.

18 Q. All right. All right. Well, I'm really sorry that this
19 happened to you.

20 MR. COLLINS: Tell him who all -- tell him all you saw when
21 you were up at (indiscernible).

22 [REDACTED] Well, I saw -- I didn't see the green boy get up.
23 There was a kid in a green shirt. It was just green or something
24 like that. But I did see him in a wheelchair when they were, when
25 we finally got out.

1 MR. COLLINS: Who did you see on the wall up here?

2 [REDACTED] Oh, the wall? I didn't -- I saw my sister. The
3 captain was right between my sister and me and my mom. And that's
4 all I was really focusing on was my sister and my mom. And the
5 captain, he was -- I was trying to crawl over there to the bar to
6 like get close to them, but the captain was in between me and my
7 sister and my mom. So I kept trying to get over there, but the
8 waves just kept throwing me against the bar. And then finally
9 someone pulled me up.

10 BY SGT. [REDACTED]

11 Q. Okay. All right. Is there anything else that I'm not asking
12 that you'd like to tell me or anything?

13 A. Uh-uh.

14 Q. Okay. All right. Well, I think that's all I've got then.
15 Okay? I'm really sorry this happened to you. All right?

16 A. Thanks.

17 SGT. [REDACTED] All right. I'll go ahead and I'll stop this.
18 And I'll let you get back. Okay?

19 [REDACTED] All right.

20 SGT. [REDACTED] All right.

21 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)
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24
25

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: CAPSIZE AND SINKING OF STRETCH DUCK 7
 ON TABLE ROCK LAKE, BRANSON, MISSOURI,
 JULY 19, 2018
 Interview of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

ACCIDENT NO.: DCA18MM028

PLACE: Branson, Missouri

DATE: July 20, 2018

was held according to the record, and that this is the original,
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed
to the best of my skill and ability.

[REDACTED]

Karen Coen Brooks
Transcriber