

**ATTACHMENT 60 – *INTERVIEW OF MARSHALL FIRE DEPARTMENT LIEUTENANT***

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

\* \* \* \* \*

Investigation of:

\*

\*

ENBRIDGE OIL SPILL

\* Docket No.: DCA-10-MP-007

MARSHALL, MICHIGAN

\*

\*

\* \* \* \* \*

Interview of: JOHN TRAVIS

Marshall, Michigan

Saturday,  
August 1, 2010

The above-captioned matter convened, pursuant to notice,  
at 3:18 p.m.

BEFORE: MATT NICHOLSON  
Accident Investigator

## APPEARANCES:

MATT NICHOLSON, Accident Investigator  
National Transportation Safety Board  
490 L'EnFant Plaza East, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20594  
matthew.nicholson@ntsb.gov

DANA SANZO, Accident Investigator  
National Transportation Safety Board  
490 L'EnFant Plaza East, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20594

JAY JOHNSON, Senior Compliance Specialist  
Enbridge Energy Company, Inc.  
119 North 25th Street East  
Superior, Wisconsin 54880-5247

BRIAN PIERZINA, General Engineer  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration (PHMSA)  
Central Region  
Kansas City, Missouri

I N D E X

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Interview of John Travis:	
By Mr. Nicholson	4
By Mr. Pierzina	32
By Mr. Johnson	35
By Mr. Pierzina	39
By Mr. Johnson	44
By Mr. Pierzina	46
By Mr. Nicholson	47
By Mr. Johnson	49
By Mr. Pierzina	49

I N T E R V I E W

(3:18 p.m.)

1  
2  
3 MR. NICHOLSON: This is Matt Nicholson with the NTSB  
4 performing interviews with John Travis regarding the Enbridge  
5 crude leak on July 25th, 2010 in Marshall, Michigan.

6 John, do I have your permission to record you while we  
7 interview you?

8 MR. TRAVIS: Yes, sir.

9 MR. NICHOLSON: Okay.

## INTERVIEW OF JOHN TRAVIS

10  
11 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

12 Q. Please state your name and contact information for us.

13 A. Lieutenant John Travis, Marshall City Fire Department.  
14 I can be reached either here, which is (269) 781-3922. My cell  
15 phone number is (269)-----

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. And I can give you a card also that has my e-mail  
18 address if that will help out any.

19 Q. That would be perfect. Thank you. My name is Matt  
20 Nicholson, NTSB Investigator, matthew.nicholson@ntsb.gov.

21 MS. SANZO: Dana Sanzo, an investigator with NTSB,  
22 office telephone (202) 314-6534.

23 MR. PIERZINA: Brian Pierzina with the Pipeline  
24 Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, PHMZA, cell phone (816)  
25 -----.

1           MR. JOHNSON: Jay Johnson, Enbridge Energy, cell phone  
2 (218)----- . It's jay.johnson@enbridge.com.

3           BY MR. NICHOLSON:

4           Q. So the reason we're here is not so much emergency  
5 response today but really kind of get a grip on what happened on  
6 the 25th. We know there was a call that came in around 9:20 and  
7 that you responded and that you met up with some other fire  
8 responders --

9           A. Correct.

10          Q. -- that night, so if you could just kind of take us back  
11 to that evening, start at the beginning when you got the call and  
12 tell us kind of -- walk us through the night?

13          A. Well, I -- we received the call for an order of  
14 investigation in the area of Brooks Airfield.

15          Q. What time was that?

16          A. Being -- it was roughly 9:30ish.

17          Q. Okay.

18          A. Somewhere around there. I'm not real -- I can't  
19 remember the exact time. We had one engine out on a medical call  
20 at that time, who was Assistant Chief Jeff Rhodes. He called me  
21 on the radio stating that he was stuck and needed me to come down  
22 to his location before proceeding to the odor investigation.

23                 As I stopped there and discussed what we were going to  
24 -- how we were going to get that truck --

25          Q. Where was that? Where did he call you to?

1           A.    He called me to Fairway Meadows Apartments, which is  
2 about a quarter mile, half mile south -- or north of the  
3 intersection of Division and Old 27.

4           MR. JOHNSON:  I don't think I -- could you say that  
5 location again, please?  I'm sorry.

6           MR. TRAVIS:  Fairway --

7           MR. JOHNSON:  Old 27?

8           MR. TRAVIS:  Yes.  It was actually South Kalamazoo  
9 Avenue is where he was at.

10          MR. JOHNSON:  That's close enough.  Thank you.

11          MR. PIERZINA:  And you said he was stuck?

12          MR. TRAVIS:  Yeah.  The fire truck -- he backed up and  
13 went off the edge of the road.

14          MR. PIERZINA:  Okay.

15          MR. TRAVIS:  And got the back end of the fire truck  
16 stuck.

17          MR. PIERZINA:  And that was your chief?

18          MR. TRAVIS:  Yes, assistant chief.

19          MR. PIERZINA:  Assistant chief.

20          MR. TRAVIS:  I stayed with 51, our rescue truck at that  
21 time.  He proceeded to the call -- the original call.

22          BY MR. NICHOLSON:

23          Q.    You're saying, I'm sorry, Jeff proceeded to the original  
24 call?

25          A.    Yes.  He had been gone 15 minutes approximately and

1 called me on the radio, said he was calling the township in  
2 because he believed it was natural gas, so we turned it over to  
3 them at that time. He then proceeded back to my location. We got  
4 51, our rescue truck, unstuck, got it back to the station and  
5 about a -- I'm guessing a half hour later we received a call from  
6 Marshall Township stating that they believed it was back in our  
7 area. So I then proceeded to go back out to double-check --

8 Q. What time did you receive that call?

9 A. That was some time after 10:00, I believe.

10 Q. Okay, so I don't think that came up before. After 10:00  
11 you got a call from --

12 A. Marshall Township.

13 Q. -- Marshall Township saying that they felt it was  
14 your --

15 A. Yes, they felt it was back in our location. They had  
16 checked the -- from what Rick Bonney had told me, he -- that they  
17 had checked the natural gas stations out in their area and could  
18 not locate anything, but they could smell it back in our area,  
19 industrial area there.

20 Q. Yeah, okay.

21 A. So I then proceeded back out to the scene with Marshall  
22 Township, was met by Rick Bonney and the one other fire fighter  
23 there, Steve Austin, I believe his name was.

24 MR. JOHNSON: David Austin, it would be, just for --

25 MR. TRAVIS: Dave, okay, yeah. As I got there I could



1 smell something. I didn't know what it was. It didn't smell like  
2 natural gas to me, but it -- I've never had -- you know, later  
3 finding out it was crude oil, I'd never had a run-in with crude  
4 oil before, so but it was -- the way the air was, it was very  
5 light and variable winds that night and if you stood in one spot,  
6 you could take a step to the left and not smell it any more, which  
7 was odd to me. But I did a -- in my eyes I did a thorough  
8 investigation. I got our gas meter. It's a Eagle gas monitor.

9 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

10 Q. Okay, yeah.

11 A. Was checking air quality. I -- after talking with Rick  
12 Bonney, we decided that we were going to check the fuel storage  
13 tanks over there. He and Mr. Austin were going to go check those.

14 Q. I'm sorry, where are you at this point?

15 A. Still on 27 --

16 Q. You want the great map here?

17 A. -- the fuel tanks, the storage facility --

18 Q. You're at the -- which storage facility is this?

19 A. We --

20 Q. Is this the Buckeye?

21 A. Yes, the Buckeye terminal.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. Is what he was going to check, which is just right just  
24 south of Division, and we were actually parked right at Industrial  
25 at the Division and Old 27 there.

1 MR. PIERZINA: Uh-huh.

2 MR. TRAVIS: We were parked in McElroy Metal's parking  
3 lot --

4 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. -- at that time.

7 Q. And that's where you were checking the air quality?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. After talking with him we -- he decided he was going to  
11 go check the storage facility there, Buckeye, and I told him I'm  
12 going to go over to Brooks Drive, which is the extent of our  
13 coverage area. So I then proceeded over there with our engine and  
14 the gas monitor from that engine, parked on the road and could  
15 smell it in certain areas, just like over at McElroy Metal, but  
16 couldn't pinpoint anything. And --

17 Q. You're still detecting with the Eagle? What --

18 A. Yeah, I'm still using the --

19 Q. What --

20 A. -- Eagle --

21 Q. What's the Eagle? What do you detect? LELs or --

22 A. LELs and upper levels, carbon monoxide and, you know,  
23 explosives, you know --

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. -- certain explosive stuff. Just -- I couldn't pick

1 anything up on the monitor and after meeting back up with Mr.

2 Bonney --

3 Q. Okay, I'm sorry --

4 A. Oh, I'm sorry.

5 Q. You're by yourself, right? Okay.

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. I was by myself.

9 Q. Okay. And where is Bonney and --

10 A. He was at the Buckeye terminal area.

11 Q. He was still at the plant?

12 A. He was still at that area. I did a walk around of -- as  
13 much as I could of most of the buildings out in that area.

14 MR. JOHNSON: At Brooks Drive area?

15 MR. TRAVIS: Yes, Brooks Drive area. Could not detect  
16 it in some areas but in, like I said, in some areas I could.

17 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

18 Q. Oh, you're actually getting -- hit something?

19 A. I could -- no, I --

20 Q. Oh, just your --

21 A. -- not -- just my nose.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. Just what I was smelling. The Eagle monitor never  
24 registered anything.

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. We then met back up with Rick Bonney --

2 MR. JOHNSON: Hold on just a second, I'm sorry, because  
3 this --

4 MR. NICHOLSON: That's why we bring the recorder.

5 MR. TRAVIS: Yep.

6 MR. NICHOLSON: That's where I want to (indiscernible).

7 MR. JOHNSON: All right, so then you met with -- you met  
8 back up with Rick?

9 MR. TRAVIS: I met -- yeah, met back up with Rick and -  
10 - let me back track for a second. Before we left McElroy Metal  
11 the first time there a gentleman pulled up in a Michigan Utilities  
12 truck and said that he was coming from a call somewhere south of  
13 town.

14 MR. JOHNSON: What -- okay. I'm going to --

15 MR. TRAVIS: I'm sorry.

16 MR. JOHNSON: No, that's okay. It's just tough to --

17 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

18 Q. Just -- I am -- since we're back tracking, what time are  
19 we talking about?

20 A. We're still at -- I don't think it was eleven o'clock at  
21 that time.

22 Q. Okay, so -- okay, before 11:00.

23 MR. JOHNSON: So 10:30ish, but you -- so at about -- and  
24 shall we -- I don't want to put -- 10:30, 11:00 or --

25 MR. NICHOLSON: Between 10:30, 11:00?

1 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah.

2 MR. NICHOLSON: You don't have to be exact.

3 MR. TRAVIS: I'd say between --

4 MR. JOHNSON: Ball park.

5 MR. TRAVIS: The thing was is I wasn't keeping track of  
6 the time.

7 MR. JOHNSON: No?

8 MR. NICHOLSON: No, okay.

9 MR. TRAVIS: So it was in between 10:00 and 11:00.

10 MR. JOHNSON: In between 10:00 and 11:00.

11 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah.

12 MR. JOHNSON: I can -- yeah, that's perfectly fine.

13 MR. TRAVIS: I didn't keep track of the times because I  
14 was not finding anything.

15 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

16 MR. TRAVIS: I mean, you know --

17 MR. JOHNSON: No, that's perfectly fine.

18 MR. TRAVIS: -- and that I could pick up or register  
19 anything.

20 MR. JOHNSON: So in between 10:00 --

21 MR. NICHOLSON: But you knew it was there. It's so  
22 frustrating because you know it's there.

23 MR. TRAVIS: I knew something was there, yeah. It was  
24 very frustrating on my part because there -- I knew there was a  
25 problem there but I couldn't pinpoint it to say this is what we

1 need to do.

2 MR. NICHOLSON: Okay --

3 MR. JOHNSON: So --

4 MR. NICHOLSON: -- so I'm sorry, you were -- you said you  
5 met back up with --

6 MR. JOHNSON: But before that --

7 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

8 Q. -- Rick.

9 A. Yeah. Before that --

10 Q. Yeah, before that --

11 A. At --

12 Q. At --

13 A. -- when we were sitting in McElroy Metal's parking lot a  
14 pick-up truck with the name Michigan Gas Utilities on it pulled  
15 up.

16 Q. Michigan Gas --

17 A. Yep.

18 Q. And who are they?

19 A. They are the ones that operate the natural gas line, I  
20 believe, out there in that area. I believe it used --

21 Q. In what area?

22 A. Division -- there's a pump station in -- where they add  
23 the scent to the --

24 Q. Oh, okay.

25 A. -- natural gas.

1 Q. Yeah.

2 A. Out on Division.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. So he said that he had come from south of town, didn't  
5 -- did not say where, but he could smell something and he had gone  
6 down and checked the -- what he called the dripper that adds the  
7 odor to the natural gas and said that that was working properly  
8 and the natural gas -- nothing was leaking up there.

9 MR. JOHNSON: Okay, I'm just going to slow you down  
10 here.

11 MR. TRAVIS: Yep.

12 MR. JOHNSON: And I know what he's talking about there  
13 too.

14 MR. NICHOLSON: I don't.

15 MR. JOHNSON: Where they add the odor in to natural gas.

16 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh, that's what they call the dripper?  
17 That's the --

18 MR. TRAVIS: That's what he called it.

19 MR. NICHOLSON: Okay. So he said he just came --

20 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah --

21 MR. NICHOLSON: -- from down south.

22 MR. JOHNSON: He came from --

23 MR. TRAVIS: And he had come from south of town which in  
24 this area down here.

25 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

1 Q. But we don't know from where, okay.

2 A. No, I don't know. He didn't give me an address of where  
3 he was coming from.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. But he was coming from the F Drive South area. But  
6 he --

7 Q. From 27?

8 A. Yes. He was heading north on 27.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. And I believe he said he got just past B Drive South  
11 near the Moonraker restaurant out there --

12 Q. Uh-huh.

13 A. -- when he could smell it, and then he seen us and he  
14 had gone down and checked that to make sure it wasn't that which  
15 was leaking.

16 MR. JOHNSON: Two -- did -- two of them? I want -- I  
17 just want to --

18 MR. TRAVIS: There was only one guy in the truck.

19 MR. JOHNSON: No, no, no, no.

20 MR. TRAVIS: Oh.

21 MR. JOHNSON: You said the drippers?

22 MR. TRAVIS: The drippers and the, I guess the pump  
23 that's there.

24 MR. JOHNSON: No, but he had checked the drippers, so in  
25 my mind it -- and I'm not trying to confuse you. Did he -- like



1 was there two locations where there were drippers or were there  
2 maybe two drippers at one? And if you don't know that, we'll talk  
3 to this guy.

4 MR. TRAVIS: I don't. I don't know.

5 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

6 MR. TRAVIS: And I never got his name.

7 MR. JOHNSON: No, that's okay.

8 MR. TRAVIS: Because that was --

9 MR. JOHNSON: No, the call outs will have that log and  
10 everything.

11 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah.

12 MR. NICHOLSON: But --

13 MR. PIERZINA: Well, in fact, do you know -- did he  
14 happen to say why he, you know, was he call -- responding to an  
15 odor complaint or was he in the area?

16 MR. TRAVIS: He didn't say. He said he was heading back  
17 from a call south of town and that's all he gave me.

18 MR. PIERZINA: Okay.

19 MR. TRAVIS: And he talked to Rick Bonney and I for just  
20 a few minutes and then left.

21 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

22 Q. Okay, just a second here. So, okay, you went -- you  
23 were down at Brook.

24 A. Uh-huh.

25 Q. You -- or no, we're back in time, I'm sorry.

1 A. Yeah. We're back in time.

2 Q. When did you meet the --

3 A. McElroy Metal.

4 Q. When did you meet the gentleman in the Missouri (sic)  
5 Gas Utilities?

6 A. Michigan Gas.

7 Q. Michigan Gas Utilities truck?

8 A. Oh, I -- that was --

9 Q. That was before you ever --

10 A. That was before I went to Brooks Drive.

11 Q. Okay. So he was already there?

12 A. Yeah, he said he had just come from there and checked  
13 them, and I didn't call him on scene. I don't know if Marshall  
14 Township called him on scene or --

15 Q. But he was stopped when you pulled up?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Oh, okay.

18 A. Well, I got there before he did. He pulled up after I  
19 had already showed up on scene.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. So, but --

22 Q. But, so when he showed up he was traveling north on 27?

23 A. Yes. He said he was --

24 Q. And you -- but you -- what -- where were you parked.

25 A. I was parked in the McElroy Metal.

1 Q. Which would be -- give me the streets. Oliver and --

2 A. On Oliver and Old 27.

3 Q. Okay, so he came up --

4 A. Right at the corner.

5 Q. -- 27, he's -- for some reason he saw you guys there.

6 Were your lights on or --

7 A. Yeah. Well, we didn't have the emergency lights on, but  
8 we had, you know, the headlights and everything. You could tell  
9 that they were fire trucks.

10 Q. Oh, okay.

11 MR. JOHNSON: So you just said, and I'm trying to write  
12 -- so the guy from Michigan Gas showed up at Oliver and Old 27 by  
13 McElroy Metal?

14 MR. TRAVIS: Uh-huh.

15 MR. PIERZINA: And was there anybody else there with you  
16 -- what you said -- he talked to you and Rick Bonney?

17 MR. TRAVIS: And Dave Austin.

18 MR. PIERZINA: Dave -- and Dave Austin?

19 MR. TRAVIS: Yes.

20 MR. PIERZINA: Okay.

21 MR. NICHOLSON: Well --

22 MR. PIERZINA: And so -- and were you doing anything  
23 else at the time?

24 MR. TRAVIS: I was still testing the air quality. It --  
25 while we were talking to him because, like I said, you could take

1 a -- I walked up next to McElroy Metal, the building, and could  
2 not smell anything the entire way around the building. But you'd  
3 walk 10 feet away from it and you could smell it like crazy. And  
4 then you'd take another couple steps and you couldn't smell it.  
5 And I checked the buildings in the area and couldn't find  
6 anything.

7 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

8 Q. So that's -- that's frustrating.

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. Did you -- so here's a guy from Michigan Gas, didn't --  
11 did you say to him hey, you got any equipment or can you take a  
12 reading and --

13 A. He said that he couldn't figure out what it was is what  
14 he told me.

15 Q. So he was having the same problem, you assume?

16 A. Yeah.

17 MR. JOHNSON: He said he had no readings or just  
18 couldn't figure it out? I --

19 MR. TRAVIS: He just said he couldn't figure it out.  
20 From what I heard him say to Mr. Bonney.

21 MR. PIERZINA: Can you describe this guy?

22 MR. TRAVIS: I didn't pay too close of attention.

23 MR. PIERZINA: And that -- and that's fine, and we're  
24 not, you know --

25 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah, well I'm trying to do a memory recall

1 --

2 MR. PIERZINA: We're not hunting for him, but you know,  
3 we just want to try and get a good description so --

4 MR. TRAVIS: Right.

5 MR. PIERZINA: -- you know --

6 MR. TRAVIS: He was probably in his 50s. I'm guessing,  
7 late 40s, early 50s.

8 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

9 Q. So all -- you've got your headlights on in your truck  
10 and --

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. -- it's plenty -- it's pretty well lit so you can see  
13 his truck says Michigan Gas?

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. So you're pretty certain?

16 MR. JOHNSON: Was he in a company uniform or anything?

17 MR. TRAVIS: It looked -- he was wearing work clothes.

18 MR. JOHNSON: He was wearing work clothes?

19 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah. I didn't look for a name tag or  
20 anything.

21 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

22 Q. Did he have the name of the company on his shirt  
23 anywhere?

24 A. No. I didn't see it.

25 Q. Okay.

1           MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, probably 10:30, 11:00 you been  
2 running around for a while.

3           MR. TRAVIS: Yeah. Yeah. That was a busy day for us,  
4 so it was --

5           MR. JOHNSON: Was it?

6           MR. TRAVIS: Yeah. That was a -- actually that was our  
7 last call for the day but I think we did -- we turned five calls  
8 that day.

9           MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

10          BY MR. NICHOLSON:

11          Q. So after you spoke with this gentleman --

12          A. That's when I proceeded down to Brooks Drive.

13          Q. Where did he go? Did he leave at that point?

14          A. He left the scene?

15          Q. Where did he leave? 27 down Oliver?

16          A. I actually didn't see where he went when he left. I had  
17 walked away and left him talking with Rick Bonney to do some more  
18 checking around the buildings.

19          Q. Okay.

20          A. With the gas monitor.

21          Q. So he left before you?

22          A. Yes.

23          Q. Oh, okay.

24          A. Yeah.

25          Q. And then you went where? Back down to the --

1 A. I went down Division to Brooks Drive.

2 Q. Again -- oh that's when --

3 A. And then that's when I originally --

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. -- went --

6 MR. PIERZINA: Were you at, gosh, what was the place the  
7 other guy said where they had such a strong odor?

8 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, yeah --

9 MR. NICHOLSON: In the windbreaker --

10 MR. JOHNSON: -- Walters-Dimmick

11 MR. PIERZINA: Yeah.

12 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh, Walters-Dimmick? Yeah, Walters-  
13 Dimmick.

14 MR. TRAVIS: I walked up to the back side. I was  
15 actually on the back side of Walters-Dimmick and I believe it's  
16 Marshall Building Components.

17 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

18 Q. Well, okay.

19 A. Which --

20 Q. What time -- this would have been now after 11:00  
21 possibly?

22 A. Probably close to 11:00 yeah.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. By the time I got down there.

25 Q. So close to 11:00?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. Okay. Go ahead. I'm sorry.

3 A. I walked down into -- behind -- Walters-Dimmick is  
4 Marshall Building Components and I walked down into like a -- it's  
5 almost like a ravine right down in there, low-lying area, and I  
6 walked down into there, lost the scent completely and got up to  
7 the back side of Walters-Dimmick.

8 Q. Uh-huh.

9 A. And I could smell it somewhat but it must have either  
10 dissipated or the air moved it just a little bit.

11 Q. So --

12 A. I don't know --

13 Q. You stepped out of the paved area --

14 A. -- because -- yes. I walked down into the grass.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. And up the back side to Walters-Dimmick.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. Along the fronts of Marshall Building Components.

19 MR. JOHNSON: I missed something here, and I apologize  
20 for that.

21 MR. TRAVIS: That's all right.

22 MR. JOHNSON: You said a truck pulled up, said it was  
23 Michigan Gas Utilities? Was he at that location or did it say on  
24 his truck or --

25 MR. TRAVIS: It said -- it -- that's what it said on the



1 side of his truck.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, okay.

3 MR. TRAVIS: Was Michigan Gas Utilities.

4 MR. JOHNSON: All right. And I've been -- sorry, I get  
5 a little over loaded and didn't want a mistake it.

6 MR. TRAVIS: That's all right. I have a tendency to  
7 talk fast sometimes. I'm sorry.

8 MR. NICHOLSON: Well --

9 MR. JOHNSON: I listen slow.

10 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

11 Q. Well, did you -- can you describe -- we -- there has  
12 been some talk about that truck. Did it have -- was there  
13 anything you could tell us about it? I mean can you --

14 A. It was white. Like I said, it had the name Michigan Gas  
15 Utilities on the side. It had a yellow light on top. It also had  
16 one of -- like a work light.

17 Q. Oh, like a --

18 A. A movable work light.

19 Q. -- spotlight or something?

20 A. Yeah. It had a tool box area in the back. I believe it  
21 was fully covering the bed, if I remember correctly.

22 MR. PIERZINA: The -- was there any logo? You know, did  
23 -- does -- did it just say Michigan Gas Utilities?

24 MR. TRAVIS: It just said Michigan Gas Utilities.

25 MR. PIERZINA: No little picture of a --

1 MR. JOHNSON: Gas drip?

2 MR. PIERZINA: -- you know a --

3 MR. JOHNSON: Because some of them have that, a gas  
4 drip. I'm not saying Michigan do.

5 MR. PIERZINA: Oh, yeah. Yeah, like a tear, you know  
6 a --

7 MR. JOHNSON: Teardrop or something?

8 MR. PIERZINA: -- a little flame, you know?

9 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah, no, it didn't. Not that I noticed  
10 anyway.

11 MR. PIERZINA: Not that you, okay, not that you noticed.

12 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

13 Q. The -- you said it's a tool chest that covers the back?

14 A. Yeah, it was like --

15 Q. Was it the same color as the truck or --

16 A. -- it was the same color as the truck so it was really  
17 hard to --

18 Q. Okay --

19 MR. JOHNSON: So a cap?

20 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah, well, no, it wasn't a cap.

21 MR. NICHOLSON: A cap --

22 MR. TRAVIS: It wasn't a full cap. It was more like a -  
23 - almost like a tool box that fit down inside the bed of the  
24 truck.

25 MR. JOHNSON: A -- well a utility side --

1 MR. TRAVIS: So that it came --

2 MR. JOHNSON: -- or a pick-up with something in it?

3 MR. TRAVIS: It was a utility truck.

4 MR. JOHNSON: There we go.

5 MR. TRAVIS: Like a utility truck with a tool box that  
6 came level with the top of the bed.

7 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. And we'll -- we won't hold you to  
8 that.

9 MR. TRAVIS: Well --

10 MR. JOHNSON: But it's, you know, a general description.

11 MR. TRAVIS: I -- yeah, I'm trying to --

12 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

13 Q. So it was like a tandem axle?

14 A. No, it was --

15 MR. JOHNSON: No. No, no they --

16 MR. TRAVIS: -- a single axle.

17 MR. NICHOLSON: Single axle?

18 MR. JOHNSON: -- would be like -- so in the side of the  
19 box, and if you don't remember, you could open things?

20 MR. TRAVIS: No.

21 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, no?

22 MR. TRAVIS: No. It was -- you would have to open  
23 everything from the top, almost like a -- doors.

24 MR. PIERZINA: Is it one of those that opens like from  
25 each side if you're standing, you know, behind the cab, you can

1 open up this side or go around the other side?

2 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah, but it was almost --

3 MR. PIERZINA: Okay.

4 MR. TRAVIS: -- it was like it took up the entire bed.

5 And from what I --

6 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, this stick up --

7 MR. PIERZINA: Oh.

8 MR. JOHNSON: -- about this far above the side of the  
9 bed?

10 MR. TRAVIS: It may not have even have stuck up over the  
11 bed. I think it was pretty much --

12 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

13 MR. TRAVIS: -- just like a Tonto cover with a bunch of  
14 doors in it or something.

15 MR. JOHNSON: With -- okay.

16 MR. NICHOLSON: But you lift them up --

17 MR. TRAVIS: I --

18 MR. NICHOLSON: You have to be over the bed --

19 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah, you have to be over the bed to lift  
20 them up.

21 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh.

22 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. So no doors on the side --

23 MR. TRAVIS: If I'm remembering correctly, that's what  
24 it --

25 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, that's really pushing you. Holy

1 smokes.

2 MR. NICHOLSON: Well, we're asking a whole lot, but --

3 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah.

4 MR. NICHOLSON: -- that's good news. Yeah, that's good  
5 news.

6 MR. JOHNSON: Okay, I'm sorry.

7 MR. TRAVIS: That's fine.

8 MR. PIERZINA: Do remember what make of truck it was?

9 MR. TRAVIS: I believe it was a GM model. I don't know  
10 if it was Chevy or GMC.

11 MR. JOHNSON: As long as it's Chevy, I'm okay with that.

12 MR. PIERZINA: Yeah.

13 MR. TRAVIS: Well, so am I.

14 MR. JOHNSON: So you're a Chevy guy?

15 MR. TRAVIS: Yes, I am.

16 MR. JOHNSON: So it -- okay. That's -- and the reason I  
17 say that because usually Chevy guys are going to know what kind of  
18 truck it is.

19 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah.

20 MR. JOHNSON: So, because otherwise they've probably got  
21 some broken down Ford.

22 MR. PIERZINA: Yeah, what kind of truck got stuck?

23 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, careful. What was stuck?

24 MR. TRAVIS: It's that Luverne that we've got out there.

25 MR. JOHNSON: The big one, oh, okay.

1 MR. TRAVIS: Rusky truck.

2 MR. JOHNSON: All right, thanks.

3 MR. PIERZINA: All right, sorry to --

4 MR. TRAVIS: That's all right.

5 MR. PIERZINA: -- digress.

6 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

7 Q. So we left it you were walking back around Marshall.  
8 You went out in some low-lying areas?

9 A. Uh-huh.

10 Q. Took some readings?

11 A. I didn't -- I couldn't pick anything up in the low-lying  
12 areas, which was really baffling to me. I figured, you know, the  
13 stuff, the way it was smelling to me is heavier than air, and it  
14 seemed to be like it would lay in lower areas. And I didn't pick  
15 any -- I couldn't smell nothing.

16 Q. Okay. Yeah.

17 MR. TRAVIS: So --

18 MR. JOHNSON: Go -- were you done, Matt, I didn't want  
19 to interrupt.

20 MR. NICHOLSON: Yeah, go ahead.

21 MR. JOHNSON: Were -- have you been trained for anything  
22 like that?

23 MR. TRAVIS: I've only been trained to --

24 MR. JOHNSON: I mean, you seem to --

25 MR. TRAVIS: -- operations level and HAZMAT. That's all

1 I -- the training I have, so --

2 MR. JOHNSON: Which was enough that you, it's like you  
3 know --

4 MR. TRAVIS: Which is --

5 MR. JOHNSON: -- if you see something go up and some  
6 down and what to look for?

7 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah, you know what you're -- generally I  
8 can tell if it's heavier than air.

9 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

10 Q. I'm sorry, your training was in what?

11 A. Operations level.

12 Q. What is that?

13 A. It's --

14 Q. Operations level HAZMAT?

15 A. HAZMAT.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. HAZ training.

18 MR. PIERZINA: Is that the 40-hour?

19 MR. TRAVIS: It's the lowest class, yeah. That's -- but  
20 that's all they give us in the --

21 MR. JOHNSON: It's like an eight hour course?

22 MR. TRAVIS: Something like that.

23 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

24 MR. TRAVIS: If I remember right. It's been years since  
25 I took it, but we do train on hazardous material, but you know,

1 I'm not a technician or anything when it comes to it.

2 MR. PIERZINA: Yeah. So do you get like annual  
3 refreshers?

4 MR. TRAVIS: Yes.

5 MR. PIERZINA: In that? To keep your operations level,  
6 I suppose?

7 MR. TRAVIS: We have to train in certain areas every  
8 year, yes. I believe that's one of them.

9 BY MR. NICHOLSON:

10 Q. Do you -- do the utilities -- utility companies do any  
11 training with you for like emergency response or --

12 A. Lakehead Pipeline has done trainings on -- unfortunately  
13 I've been out of town when they've done them.

14 Q. That is unfortunate. Where are they or who are they?  
15 Where are they?

16 A. They've done them at Cedar Crest out on the east end of  
17 town. It's a banquet facility, and I can't remember the other  
18 place that they've done it.

19 Q. And so they -- you get mailings from them for training?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Okay. What about gas utilities? Do they notify you  
22 or --

23 A. I don't know if they do or not.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. I haven't been --



1 Q. So you haven't attended any --

2 A. No.

3 Q. -- kind of gas utility --

4 A. No.

5 Q. -- training or --

6 A. Just what we've had in the fire academy.

7 Q. Oh, okay.

8 A. Which was very minimal.

9 Q. So, no utilities. Okay.

10 MR. PIERZINA: How many folks do you have on your  
11 department?

12 MR. TRAVIS: There's your captain's (indiscernible).

13 MR. PIERZINA: Oh.

14 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh. Hey.

15 MR. TRAVIS: We have seven full-time employees.

16 BY MR. PIERZINA:

17 Q. Seven full time?

18 A. Yep. And that's counting our chief.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. And 25, I believe, part paid fire fighters.

21 Q. Are -- volunteer? Part time?

22 A. We call them part paid.

23 Q. Part paid?

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. Part paid?

1 A. They're on call.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Paid on call?

3 MR. TRAVIS: Paid on call.

4 MR. JOHNSON: Ah. My neighbor was. That's weird.

5 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah.

6 MR. JOHNSON: That's why I was talking to the other guy.

7 MR. TRAVIS: And it's very rare to find a full volunteer  
8 department any more.

9 MR. PIERZINA: So when those opportunities come --

10 MR. JOHNSON: Whoa, whoa, do we need to wait, I think?  
11 I -- I'm sorry.

12 MR. PIERZINA: They -- oh. Actually it was just kind of  
13 a general discussion, when the opportunity comes up to go to those  
14 meetings, is like the whole --

15 MR. JOHNSON: Oh.

16 BY MR. PIERZINA:

17 Q. -- whole department invited --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- or just a few -- select few?

20 A. No, the entire department does -- they set up a sign-up  
21 sheet if you can attend it, you can.

22 Q. Okay. And sometimes --

23 MR. JOHNSON: Sorry, Brian.

24 MR. TRAVIS: Our chief --

25 BY MR. PIERZINA:

1 Q. Sometimes only a few select can go or whatever?

2 A. Yeah, no. For the most part, most of the trainings like  
3 that that come up we let everybody in on. I do recall now that I  
4 did attend a -- I believe it was a propane training where we  
5 learned how to use the fire screens to cool down tanks and get up  
6 and shut them off with using hose lines.

7 Q. Oh, okay.

8 MR. JOHNSON: You're talking to someone who's had his  
9 Suburban burn down by a runaway 20-pounder.

10 MR. TRAVIS: Oh, boy.

11 MR. JOHNSON: It wasn't my runaway 20-pounder. It  
12 was --

13 MR. PIERZINA: Bit it was your Suburban.

14 MR. JOHNSON: It was Terry's -- who we worked with this  
15 morning? It was her husband's.

16 MR. PIERZINA: Oh.

17 MR. JOHNSON: Sitting in Bristol, Tennessee. Hmm. Lose  
18 more Suburbans that way.

19 MR. PIERZINA: Oh, gosh. Yeah, we're kind of --

20 MR. JOHNSON: That's some -- yeah. Maybe we should put  
21 this on pause or something while we're waiting for Matt?

22 MR. PIERZINA: What do you think Dana?

23 MR. JOHNSON: We could just --

24 MR. PIERZINA: Or can we just -- he probably doesn't  
25 care. It might even be better to just show the recording

1 continue.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

3 MR. PIERZINA: As long as we have --

4 MR. JOHNSON: Well, I just -- I -- right.

5 MR. PIERZINA: As long as we don't badmouth him or  
6 something like that, huh.

7 MR. JOHNSON: Okay, I won't.

8 BY MR. JOHNSON:

9 Q. Maybe moving ahead or whatever, so then you were -- you  
10 -- the smell was there but you --

11 A. I couldn't pin point it.

12 Q. -- couldn't find it. I mean, you were around, I know  
13 you have the training and then when you -- so you cleared or leave  
14 or --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- I just don't know how that goes.

17 A. Oh, I actually contacted Assistant Chief Rhodes and  
18 discussed it with him over the radio and explained to him what I  
19 found, what I didn't find, and asked him, I said I can't pinpoint  
20 it. I don't know what the problem is. I don't -- I said I really  
21 don't know what to do, and, you know, I've never run into this  
22 situation before. And he said well, if you can't find the problem  
23 I guess you just go ahead and come back and after talking with  
24 Rick Bonney, we both came to the same conclusion, just go ahead  
25 and clear because we couldn't pinpoint anything. And I had

1 checked, you know, if -- it would have been probably a different  
2 story for me had I picked something up on the gas monitor.

3 Q. Oh, I don't doubt that at all.

4 A. That would have been a totally different situation.

5 Q. Then you call in someone and say help me find this,  
6 yeah.

7 A. We would have been calling everybody.

8 Q. Yeah.

9 A. At that point. But I could not pick up anything on the  
10 gas monitor, and if you'd like I can show you the gas monitor when  
11 we get done so you know what I was working with.

12 Q. No, actually -- well I don't need to see that. Maybe  
13 Dana does, but we, you know, our company has the same one --

14 A. I -- right, I'm sure --

15 Q. -- and they're all recordable. I mean, that's just --

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. -- makes your life easier.

18 A. At times, yes.

19 Q. At times, yes. Okay.

20 MR. PIERZINA: Have you ever seen, you know, I -- I'm  
21 not sure, you know, probably your chief has some manuals and stuff  
22 or you guys -- you know, your department has some manuals. Have  
23 you ever seen the Pipeline Emergency Response Manual? Or anything  
24 that --

25 MR. TRAVIS: I don't remember seeing one, though.

1 MR. PIERZINA: Anything like that?

2 MR. JOHNSON: So when you clear it, what do you -- how  
3 do you clear it? I mean, when --

4 MR. TRAVIS: We --

5 BY MR. JOHNSON:

6 Q. So when you talked to the chief and maybe Rick, I don't  
7 know, maybe take that from when you called the chief and maybe  
8 walk me to when you're like came back, what are your steps?

9 A. When we clear a scene, basically what we do is we put  
10 away all of our equipment that we used and get the truck -- check  
11 the truck, make sure everything's on it that we had off it and we  
12 call on the radio to alarm office, tell them that we're clearing  
13 the scene and returning to quarters.

14 Q. So the alarm office is where?

15 A. Right across the street from the county building.

16 Q. Is that the 911?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Is that what you mean by the alarm office?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. We call it the alarm office. Some places call it  
22 dispatch center. This one's got a new name, it's Calhoun County  
23 Consolidated Dispatch. But we've -- I've always called it the  
24 alarm office and pretty --

25 Q. Yeah, it's not problem, we're just --

1 A. -- everybody here has.

2 Q. -- hearing a lot of different things, so I just --

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. -- wanted to make sure in my mind what that was.

5 A. Yep.

6 Q. So I'm going to write this down and then ask you if I've  
7 simplified it too much.

8 A. And then the next step in -- after that process is when  
9 we get back to the station we call alarm office and report that  
10 we're back in -- back at the station and off the air.

11 Q. So you cleared the site?

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. Returned to base.

14 A. Right.

15 Q. Check the truck, call the alarm office and say that you  
16 -- what do you, I mean, do you close the call, close the loophole,  
17 what do you --

18 A. Clear the scene means that we have determined that we  
19 cannot find anything or that the scene, as far as we're concerned,  
20 is over.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. At that time.

23 Q. So you notify them --

24 A. Yep.

25 Q. -- that the scene is clear?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. Okay.

3 BY MR. PIERZINA:

4 Q. Is there any paperwork involved in that?

5 A. We do a brief report unless it's something like a  
6 structure fire where it -- where we get much more entailed,  
7 especially, you know, when it comes to like Monday morning we had  
8 a structure fire that we were on for approximately six hours. So  
9 that was a pretty rough day for us there too.

10 Q. Is that the name of the report, brief report, or is it  
11 just a short, you know --

12 A. No, actually we do a -- it's about a four-page report  
13 when we print it out.

14 Q. Oh, the big one? Yeah. On a big one. Or when you do  
15 your brief report that's a --

16 A. Any report. It's -- we have a section --

17 Q. Okay, so that's kind of a misnomer?

18 A. We have a section that we put our notes in and sometimes  
19 it's very brief notes depending on what the call was.

20 Q. Okay, I'm sorry.

21 A. So it's the same report for any call, but it --  
22 depending on the call is how it makes -- determines how many notes  
23 that we add to it.

24 Q. Okay. So do -- and do you do that as soon as you're  
25 back at the shop or --



1           A.    Yes.  In that case Assistant Chief Rhodes did the  
2 report.  He had it done by the time I got back.

3           Q.    Oh.

4           A.    So, after speaking with him, you know, he knew what we  
5 had done and he was just -- actually he was finishing up the notes  
6 as I got back to the station, so --

7           Q.    That's -- is that how that kind of works or do you --

8           A.    For the most part if only one of us goes out the guy  
9 that stays back will do the report and when the -- if I talk to  
10 him on the radio or if he talks to me on the radio, sometimes  
11 we'll, if it's in just a cut and dry call, we will -- we know what  
12 the other person is doing or should be doing and we do the notes  
13 and then when they get back we have them over -- double-check  
14 them and if it's okay then we print it out.

15          Q.    Huh.

16          A.    But --

17          Q.    Oh, so you actually do it on the computer and --

18          A.    Yes.

19          Q.    -- it's -- goes into a --

20          A.    A data base.

21          Q.    -- file or some --

22          A.    Yep.

23          Q.    -- data base?  Okay.  Good.

24          A.    Yeah.  We use, I think it's called Fire Programs.

25          Q.    Okay.

1 A. Is the reporting system that we use.

2 Q. Is that exclusive to just Marshall City Fire Department,  
3 or does Marshall Township Fire Department use it?

4 A. I believe some -- most of the other departments around  
5 do the same -- use the same reporting system.

6 Q. Okay. I guess I was kind of curious if it was a -- you  
7 know, if it all went into a Calhoun County --

8 A. No.

9 Q. -- system? No?

10 A. I -- I'm not real sure how that works.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. Greg McComb, he's assistant chief here, he's the one  
13 that deals with the fire programs. He'll -- if we have a problem  
14 with it he'll contact Fire Programs and get it sorted out, you  
15 know, and if it's not working properly or we, you know, something  
16 like that, he takes care of that.

17 Q. So -- and what time were you cleared by?

18 A. I don't know. I can't remember the exact time.

19 MR. JOHNSON: They'll get the report, though, if you  
20 want.

21 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah, I could look at the report and tell  
22 you what time I cleared.

23 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

24 MR. PIERZINA: Okay.

25 MR. JOHNSON: And I don't have anything yet, but that's

1 in -- we'll leave that optional, but --

2 MR. TRAVIS: Yeah.

3 MR. JOHNSON: We kind of proceeded without you. We  
4 didn't get in -- heavily in any details.

5 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh, that's all right.

6 MR. JOHNSON: More on how they clear the site --

7 MR. NICHOLSON: So let's --

8 MR. JOHNSON: -- when they get back and --

9 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh, okay. Okay. Need more information  
10 on --

11 MR. PIERZINA: Just to back --

12 MR. NICHOLSON: -- trucks?

13 MR. PIERZINA: So and that was your last -- of course it  
14 was pretty close to the end of the day anyhow, huh?

15 MR. TRAVIS: Well, I didn't get out until 7:30 the next  
16 morning, so --

17 MR. PIERZINA: Okay.

18 MR. TRAVIS: We work 24-hour shifts.

19 MR. JOHNSON: And that was your last call, though?

20 MR. TRAVIS: And I'm pretty sure that was our last call,  
21 yes.

22 MR. PIERZINA: And did you have, you know, prior to this  
23 one were there any calls -- well, you said your --

24 MR. TRAVIS: I think we ran five calls that day if I  
25 remember correctly.

1 MR. JOHNSON: In that neck of the woods or all around?

2 MR. TRAVIS: No, all over the city.

3 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

4 MR. TRAVIS: Sorry.

5 MR. NICHOLSON: No, that's okay.

6 BY MR. PIERZINA:

7 Q. Any recent calls, you know, any other calls in that  
8 area, say, you know, the rest of Sunday, or, you know, earlier on  
9 Sunday?

10 A. Not that I'm recalling. I could look at the run log and  
11 tell you whether -- where they were located at, but I don't know  
12 off the top of my head. I don't believe so.

13 Q. Okay. It's --

14 A. Other than the call at Fairway Meadows, which is down  
15 right across from the golf course.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. But that's, like I said, about a quarter to a half mile  
18 down the road.

19 Q. Now, was that your assistant chief that was on that one?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Okay. And that was Assistant Chief Rhodes?

22 A. Yes. And like I said he got the fire truck stuck and  
23 when I was down there, I couldn't smell anything in that area.

24 Q. Uh-huh.

25 A. Relating to anything.

1 Q. What -- and what kind of call was he on? I --

2 A. He was on a medical.

3 Q. A medical call?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And besides -- okay, so --

6 MR. NICHOLSON: So he was on a medical call and he got  
7 stuck?

8 MR. TRAVIS: After the ambulance already had the patient  
9 loaded.

10 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh, okay. All right.

11 MR. TRAVIS: Because he was --

12 MR. JOHNSON: Go ahead. I knew where you were going.

13 MR. TRAVIS: -- he was backing up.

14 MR. JOHNSON: But there's bad luck.

15 MR. TRAVIS: He was backing the fire engine up and it -  
16 - the road stops and it turns to dirt.

17 MR. PIERZINA: Okay.

18 MR. TRAVIS: And with all the rains that we've had here  
19 recently the back end of the truck just sank, so --

20 BY MR. PIERZINA:

21 Q. And I, you know, I think maybe my head's saturated so  
22 stuff goes out -- did you say that you guys had talked about the  
23 odor? Did he smell an odor at all?

24 A. He said he smelled --

25 BY MR. JOHNSON:

1 Q. Oh.

2 A. -- something but he was putting it off as natural gas is  
3 what he told me.

4 Q. Okay, because you -- now, I'm going from earlier now.

5 A. Uh-huh.

6 Q. I think it's -- now it's -- in my mind it's clear,  
7 Brian, but so you got the call -- or he got the call, said you  
8 need to go, I got stuck.

9 A. Uh-huh.

10 Q. So but yet you went to him --

11 A. He had me --

12 Q. He left you with the --

13 A. He had me --

14 Q. He -- you got the stuck truck.

15 A. Yeah. And he went out there originally.

16 Q. And then he went to the airport. To Brooks Field?

17 A. He went to Division and Old 27.

18 Q. Okay, Division and Old 27.

19 A. And he was -- he told me and -- that it was, he thought  
20 it was natural gas, so he called the Township in.

21 Q. Okay.

22 MR. PIERZINA: That's what you said, and it just left.

23 MR. NICHOLSON: Except you're -- the call came in at the  
24 airport, right? It --

25 MR. TRAVIS: We were -- the way dispatch gave it out, I

1 believe, was that it was in the -- at the airport. But as he was  
2 going, he couldn't smell anything at the airport, I believe.

3 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh, okay.

4 MR. TRAVIS: Is what he told me. You -- I can get you  
5 his phone --

6 BY MR. JOHNSON:

7 Q. So he kept --

8 A. -- number.

9 Q. -- going until he smelled it?

10 A. Yeah, I believe --

11 Q. Got that smell?

12 A. -- that's what he did.

13 Q. Determined that you switched --

14 A. I don't know for sure.

15 Q. Yeah, you have to -- asking you to talk for somebody  
16 else, but okay.

17 BY MR. PIERZINA:

18 Q. So if, by now I ought to -- but he was just finishing up  
19 with the medical call --

20 A. Uh-huh.

21 Q. And got --

22 A. We got a --

23 Q. -- dispatched --

24 A. Yeah, we got --

25 Q. -- dispatched to --

1           A.    -- dispatched to the odor investigation while he was on  
2 the call.

3           Q.    And --

4           A.    And the reason that he had me come to him was because he  
5 had the truck stuck, so --

6           Q.    All right.

7                   BY MR. NICHOLSON:

8           Q.    And the Enbridge truck that you saw was when you were  
9 meeting up with --

10          A.    No, I didn't see an Enbridge truck.

11          Q.    Or the Michigan -- who was it?

12          A.    Michigan Gas Utilities.

13          Q.    That was when you were meeting up with Dave and --

14                   MR. JOHNSON:  He didn't say Enron.

15                   MR. TRAVIS:  And Rick Bonney.

16                   MR. NICHOLSON:  And Rick.  Any other questions?

17                   MR. PIERZINA:  Well, I guess, just, John, if there's  
18 anything you can think of just in general, you know, that might  
19 help us, you know, in our investigation, we'd -- we'll take  
20 anything you might offer.

21                   MR. NICHOLSON:  I've got a couple.  I just wanted to --

22                   MR. PIERZINA:  Oh.

23                   BY MR. NICHOLSON:

24          Q.    Who else is interviewed about those incidents that  
25 night?



1 A. Who else has been interviewed from here?

2 Q. Who else has interviewed you?

3 A. No one.

4 Q. Oh. Your chief or township chief?

5 A. I talked to my Assistant Chief about it today.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. Bill Hinkinson (ph.) but I just told him what I did, you  
8 know, and my -- the steps that I took while I was out there.

9 Q. Okay. And you were talking -- I think it was before I  
10 got that tape going. I wanted to hear -- your experience, you  
11 said, you were talking about your family and how long you'd been a  
12 fire -- can you just give me some of your experience?

13 A. I've been on full time for three and a half years.  
14 Before that I was on for just about six years as a part paid.

15 Q. And I thought it was a rather interesting --

16 A. Third generation in my family to be on the department  
17 full time. My dad served here for 31 or 32 years.

18 Q. Third generation at this place, but it was five?

19 A. Five -- the fifth --

20 Q. Family members?

21 A. The fifth family member to be here. And I grew up  
22 around this -- in the fire service and it's the only thing I've  
23 ever wanted to do.

24 MR. NICHOLSON: Okay. Anything else, guys?

25 MR. PIERZINA: Unh-unh.

1           MR. JOHNSON: Just a general question. You know, now  
2 I'm starting to be like you, Brian.

3           BY MR. JOHNSON:

4           Q. In -- I don't think it's to do with the investigation,  
5 if you want to shut the recorder off, and it has nothing to do  
6 with the response, but how do you interact, I mean, with the 911,  
7 I mean, it's next door or anything else, do you have any sessions  
8 where you learn what they do or they talk to you or --

9           A. No --

10          Q. -- I don't know what I'm trying to get at there.

11          A. -- not really. With the way that the 911 center is set  
12 up now, being a consolidated dispatch, they have a governing board  
13 and our chief goes to the meetings for that, but I don't attend  
14 them personally.

15          Q. Okay. So really no interaction there?

16          A. Not on a personal basis. Our chief will come back to us  
17 and tell us what's going on if it's anything pertinent.

18          Q. Okay.

19          MR. PIERZINA: I -- I'm sorry. I also have another  
20 question.

21          BY MR. PIERZINA:

22          Q. Just, you know, in kind of that whole coordination  
23 thing, so you guys brought Marshall Township Fire Department in  
24 because you thought it was --

25          A. In their area.

1 Q. -- on the west side of Old 27 or --

2 A. Right.

3 Q. -- you know, in their area. Did you call Fredonia  
4 Township or --

5 A. No.

6 Q. It was -- maybe -- do you ever work with Fredonia  
7 Township when you --

8 A. Yeah, we work in --

9 Q. -- when you get into that border kind of thing where --

10 A. We've -- we work with them on occasion.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. We run any PI accident in their area, a known personal  
13 injury accident. We run on those. Sometimes they call us for  
14 structure fires. But we don't -- other than that we don't really,  
15 you know, work with them on a day to day basis or anything unless  
16 they call for us or we call for them, which we have several times  
17 in the past.

18 Q. Do you hear on your radio or anything when, you know,  
19 like if Fredonia Township was being paged, would you hear that?

20 A. I would if I had it with me, yes, I would hear it.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. The morning that that -- that they were toned out for  
23 this I was already on a structure fire.

24 Q. Oh.

25 A. So I did not -- I didn't hear anything.

1 Q. Okay. And you didn't hear anything -- you didn't hear  
2 Fredonia Township getting paged out at all Sunday night?

3 A. I don't remember, honestly.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. Sometimes the radio goes nonstop all day.

6 Q. Yeah.

7 A. And you tune it out unless you hear, you know, your area  
8 or something that you might possibly have to respond on.

9 Q. Okay. Great. Thank you much.

10 MR. JOHNSON: Thanks for your time.

11 MR. TRAVIS: Hey, not a problem. And like I said if I  
12 come up with anything more or remember anything else I can give  
13 somebody a call and --

14 MR. JOHNSON: Did we, just to -- and I remember you  
15 talked about it, and I think you were gone then, Matt. You do a  
16 small follow-up to the call out?

17 MR. PIERZINA: The brief report, right?

18 MR. JOHNSON: Well --

19 MR. TRAVIS: Well we -- alls we do is a report,  
20 depending on --

21 MR. JOHNSON: So there you would have said went to site,  
22 smelled, you know, did this with the gas detector, cleared?

23 MR. TRAVIS: Right. Used gas detector, cleared the  
24 scene, returned to quarters.

25 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. So I mean if for some reason Matt

1 wanted to get a copy of that for the records you could?

2 MR. TRAVIS: He'd have to fill out a FOIA request, I  
3 believe, but I'd have to check with my assistant chief on that. I  
4 don't know. As far as I know anyone needing a --

5 MR. NICHOLSON: This would be on the --

6 MR. TRAVIS: -- report --

7 MR. NICHOLSON: -- like a sheet we got from --

8 MR. JOHNSON: Very --

9 MR. NICHOLSON: Yeah.

10 MR. JOHNSON: -- yeah, kind of where they close the  
11 loop, they got called out, they get a sheet, they call them out,  
12 and then they close the loop.

13 MR. PIERZINA: Yeah, except they do theirs right on the  
14 computer.

15 MR. NICHOLSON: Oh, yours are on the computer?

16 MR. TRAVIS: Uh-huh.

17 MR. NICHOLSON: Okay. Okay. That's good to know. If I  
18 need it, I'll come talk to you. Okay. Any other questions?

19 MR. TRAVIS: And I just -- I briefly looked over the  
20 notes, like I said, I didn't type them out, so --

21 MR. JOHNSON: I got a pad here. An extra pad. Would  
22 you like it?

23 MR. NICHOLSON: I just was going to leave my --

24 MR. PIERZINA: Oh, you --

25 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

1 MR. NICHOLSON: -- contact information. I forgot my  
2 cards. I'm sorry. Was trying to travel light today.

3 MR. TRAVIS: I don't know if each one of you want a  
4 card?

5 MR. JOHNSON: I think if you give it to the chief here.

6 MR. TRAVIS: Okay.

7 MR. JOHNSON: Our chief.

8 MR. NICHOLSON: Thank you.

9 MS. SANZO: And with an extra one if I can have one too,  
10 please?

11 MR. TRAVIS: Certainly.

12 MS. NICHOLSON: Yeah, Dana, my --

13 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, I -- we got two reasons for those.

14 MR. NICHOLSON: -- she'll be talking to you again  
15 probably on another --

16 MR. TRAVIS: Okay.

17 MR. NICHOLSON: -- subject.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

19 MR. NICHOLSON: Okay. I guess this concludes the  
20 interview with John Travis.

21 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

22

23

24

25

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

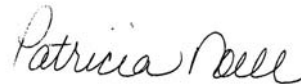
IN THE MATTER OF:                   ENBRIDGE OIL SPILL  
  MARSHALL, MICHIGAN  
  Interview of John Travis

DOCKET NUMBER:                   DCA-10-MP-007

PLACE:                               Marshall, Michigan

DATE:                                August 1, 2010

was held according to the record, and that this is the original,  
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been compared to  
the recording accomplished at the hearing.



---

Patricia Noell  
Transcriber