

Docket No. SA-540

Exhibit No. 1-H

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Washington, D.C.

Witness Panel Biographies

(4 Pages)

Deke Abbott

Mr. Abbott is currently serving as the Manager of the Polaris Certificate Management Office (CMO) in Anchorage, Alaska.

He began his FAA career after being hired into AFS-200 in Washington, D.C. in September of 2009 as an Operations Inspector. As an Operations Inspector assigned to AFS-220, he was the Lead Inspector for FAR part 121 Air Carrier Flight Management work including: All ETOPS certification projects, Flight Ops, Dispatch, Fuel planning and use, Weight and Balance, RNAV RNP, Special Airports and was the Designated Federal Official for the "Pilot Mentoring, Leadership" rulemaking team.

Prior to transferring to Alaska, Mr. Abbott was the Branch Manager of AFS-220. This branch is responsible for setting the operating policy for the U.S. FAR part 121 airlines.

He soloed at age 16 and graduated from Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island and holds an MBA. His aviation career has taken him throughout the world and he has worked as a flight instructor, corporate pilot, and Airline Captain as well as serving two combat tours overseas as a Forward Air Controller in the U.S. Marines. He has an extensive background that includes the training of pilots and has served as both an Operations Chief Pilot and as the JFK Domicile Chief Pilot for a part 121 airline.

Deke is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society in London, England.

He holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate and is type rated in multiple transport category aircraft and has a Commercial Single Engine Sea pilot certificate. He holds a current Flight Instructor certificate with single, multiengine and instrument ratings.

Charles Gillespie

Mr. Gillespie is the FAA Principal Operations Inspector assigned to the Hageland Aviation Services Air Carrier Certificate for oversight functions. He began his FAA career in 2011 and was assigned to the Hageland certificate in September 2014.

Mr. Gillespie has been flying for over 36 years and has accumulated over 17,000 total flight hours, of which, about 16,000 took place within the State of Alaska. During his 13 years flying under 14 CFR Part 135, he flew Cessna 208 Caravans both under visual flight rules (VFR) and instrument flight rules (IFR) in addition to being a base chief pilot and check airman. Additionally, Mr. Gillespie flew 7 years and was a check airman for a 14 CFR Part 121 air carrier.

In addition to his flight experience, Mr. Gillespie spent 13 years working as an airframe and powerplant mechanic and held an inspection authorization for 7 years. He earned an AAS degree in Aviation Science Technologies in 1995.

Stu Greene

Stu Greene joined Hageland Aviation as Vice President of Safety in January 2017. With over 17 years of professional experience Mr. Greene has managed a wide range of activities including remote aviation operations, North Slope Oil and Gas Logistics, Aviation Safety and Assurance, Accident Investigation and Prevention, and Aviation Contract Management. Mr. Greene received his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA. After graduation, he served in the United States Marine Corps as a CH-46 helicopter pilot and

squadron safety officer. As a Marine, he earned his certificate of Aviation Accident Investigation and Safety Program Management from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey CA.

After leaving the Service, Mr. Greene moved to Alaska and worked as a commercial flight engineer for Evert's Air Cargo and pilot PenAir before accepting a position as the airfield safety manager at Ft Greely, in Delta Junction, AK. Most recently he worked for Shell Oil in the Logistics Department as an Aviation Contract Manager where he managed and was responsibility for all offshore helicopter operations.

Luke Hickerson

Mr. Hickerson began at Hageland Aviation Services in 2003 as a second-in-command on the Cessna 208 and flew as a line pilot until 2013, at which time he transferred to the Part 121 operation, where he remained until January of 2014. Mr. Hickerson returned to Hageland in 2014 as the chief pilot and became the Vice President of Operations and director of operations for Hageland Aviation Services in June of 2015.

Mr. Hickerson has an ATP Certificate with a Beech 1900 type rating. He holds a current Flight Instructor certificate with single, multiengine and instrument ratings. He has accumulated over 10,000 total flight hours.

Yasuo Ishihara

Mr. Ishihara is a Technical Fellow with Honeywell Aerospace Advanced Technology based in Redmond, WA, U.S.A., and has 20 years of experience in the area of flight safety systems. He holds a Master of Science degree in Human Factors in Aeronautics & Astronautics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mr. Ishihara is a lead system architect in the development of flight safety systems, including EGPWS Terrain Awareness System, SmartRunway[®] and SmartLanding[®].

Mr. Ishihara was a co-chairman of RTCA Special Committee 212 which developed DO-309 Minimum Operating Performance Standards (MOPS) for Helicopter TAWS Airborne Equipment. He was also a co-chairman of RTCA Special Committee 231 for creating fixed wing TAWS MOPS. He also participates in EUROCAE Working Group 101 developing MOPS for Runway Overrun Awareness and Alerting System (ROAAS).

Mr. Ishihara is a Member of International Society of Air Safety Investigators (ISASI) and Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical society.

Mr. Ishihara holds a private pilot license for fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft.

Andrew W. McClure

Mr. McClure is currently a senior staff support specialist with the FAA's Alaska Flight Service Information Area Group in Anchorage, Alaska. He assumed this position in 2016 and has been employed with the FAA in various Flight Service Stations since 1986.

Mr. McClure received his education at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, University of Oregon and University of Southern California, Institute of Safety and Systems Management, all while serving in the U.S. Naval Reserves. He is the holder of a Commercial pilot certificate with airplane single engine land and sea ratings and an instrument rating. Additionally, he holds a certified flight instructor certificate and advanced ground instructor certificate.

Greg Tanner

Mr. Tanner is a retired Captain with the Alaska State Troopers. His career in Alaska law enforcement ran from 1981 until his retirement in 2004.

Following his retirement, he earned his FAA dispatch license and served as the dispatch supervisor at Frontier Flying Service in Alaska prior to the company merging with Hageland Aviation. Following the merger, he was the station manager for Hageland in Fairbanks, Alaska until he became the manager of the operational control center in January of 2014. He continues to hold this position.

Gerard Rock

Mr. Rock is currently the Executive Director at the Medallion Foundation. He has been with the Medallion Foundation since its inception either as a Board Member for Medallion or for the Alaska Air Carriers Association. He has 35 years of aviation experience, and has spent 20 of those years in management of highly successful aviation companies in Alaska.

Mr. Rock has managed multi-million dollar international aviation operations (in Africa, South America, the Philippines, and the U.S.), expanded operations, lead corporate diversification into new markets, and consistently increased revenues.

Mr. Rock began his aviation career at Wien Air as base manager at St. Mary's, then worked for Alaska Helicopters, Columbia Helicopters, and Evergreen Aviation. He has guided both fixed wing and rotor wing international operations, and has lived in Alaska for 40 years, working first in bush Alaska and serving in aviation companies whose names are synonymous with Alaska's aviation industry.

Debora Walker

As Deputy Director for the Medallion Foundation, Ms. Walker manages various operational aspects of Medallion, as well as development of the Organization Designee Authorization pilot project, on-line training resources, marketing and the Seasonal Operator Safety Toolkit. Prior to joining Medallion, Ms. Walker was the Safety and Quality Assurance Manager for Bristow Alaska, part of the Bristow Group family. She brings with her experience in management positions for safety, internal auditing, safety management systems and training for a variety of part 135 and 121 operators in Alaska.

Ms. Walker has a Master's in Public Administration from Angelo State University, part of the Texas Tech University system and a BA in History from the University of Montana. She holds an ATP and commercial multiengine airplane land certificates and various flight instructor certifications.

Ms. Walker currently serves on the Board for the Aviation Safety Council of Alaska; an aviation industry safety non-profit dedicated to providing and sharing resources for aviation safety professionals in an open forum.

Clint Wease

Clint is an airline transport pilot and is type rated in the B-737, DHC-7 and Learjet aircraft. He holds a flight instructor certificate with single, multiengine, glider, and instrument ratings.

During his tenure as an operations inspector, he was assigned oversight of FAR 135 and 121 air carriers operating in the Anchorage district and served as an all weather operations specialist in the Alaskan Region. He participated in the development and implementation of a regional program to provide training to inspectors on the subject of operational control. He participated in the early stages of the regional systems evaluation program applying system safety concepts to the inspection of part 135 air carriers.

In September 2002, Clint served as Unit Supervisor for the East Unit at the Anchorage FSDO until March 2004, when he was selected as the Assistant Office Manager. That same year he was assigned to the Fairbanks FSDO as the Office Manager until becoming the Alaskan Region Division Manager, June 2011. He began his FAA career after being hired into the Anchorage FSDO in August 1998 as an operations inspector. He came to the FAA after spending 23 years in aviation. He soloed at age 16 and after graduating from high school, he attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach Florida. His aviation career has taken Clint throughout the world. He has worked as a flight instructor, corporate pilot, part 135 on-demand charter pilot, commuter captain, and airline captain. He has an extensive background that includes the training of air carrier pilots and has served as a check airman for a part 121 airline.

In his career with the FAA Clint has received recognition for his Strategic Leadership. In 2010, Clint was selected nationally as the Flight Standards Manager of the Year.

Erin Witt

Ms. Witt was the Chief Pilot at Hageland Aviation Services at the time of the accident, having transitioned from the position of Director of Flight Standards to Chief Pilot the day prior to the accident.

Ms. Witt has been involved with aviation her entire adult life. She soloed on her 16th birthday in Melbourne, Australia before attending flight school in Phoenix, AZ. In 2003, she began flying for Frontier Flying Service in Alaska in the Beechcraft 1900 and Piper Navajo. Following her time at Frontier Flying Service, she moved on to Omni Air International where she flew in the right seat of a DC-10 for about one year before being furloughed and returning to Alaska.

In 2009, Ms. Witt joined Hageland Aviation as a line pilot and continued flying until 2011, when she left to join Bald Mountain Air Service. She held multiple positions at Bald Mountain, including line pilot, check airman, company flight instructor, director of safety and director of operations. Ms. Witt departed Bald Mountain and rejoined Hageland Aviation in 2015 as the director of flight standards, a position she held until becoming chief pilot.

Ms. Witt has an ATP Certificate with a Beech 1900 type rating and DC-10 second-in-command type rating. She holds a current Flight Instructor certificate with single, multiengine and instrument ratings. As of December 2016, she had accumulated about 7,500 total flight hours.