

## **HUMAN PERFORMANCE ATTACHMENT**

# $Commuter\ Bus\ Driver\ Interview\ Transcript$

Flushing, NY

**HWY17MH015** 

(31 pages)

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Investigation of:

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NY MTA TRANSIT BUS AND MOTORCOACH \*
CRASH IN FLUSHING, NEW YORK \* ACCIDENT NO.: HWY17MH015
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017 \*

Interview of: DAVON BRYAN

New York

Thursday,

September 21, 2017

#### APPEARANCES:

KENNETH BRAGG, Human Performance Investigator National Transportation Safety Board

JOHN SHEEHAN, Investigator New York State Department of Transportation

BENJAMIN SERRANO, Assistant Chief Officer Department of Buses New York City Transit

RAMON PAEZ Office of System Safety - MTA New York City Transit

MARK HENRY, President Local 1056, Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU)

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1	<u>INTERVIEW</u>
2	(7:05 a.m.)
3	MR. BRAGG: Okay. Today is Thursday, September 21, 2017, and
4	the time is 7:05 a.m. My name is Kenneth Bragg. I'm a human
5	performance investigator with the National Transportation Safety
6	Board.
7	And let's start by going around the room and going on record
8	with identity. Please state your first name and spell your last
9	name.
10	MR. SHEEHAN: John Sheehan, S-H-E-E-H-A-N, New York State
11	DOT.
12	MR. SERRANO: Benjamin Serrano, S-E-R-R-A-N-O, Assistant
13	Chief Officer, New York City Transit, Department of Buses.
14	MR. PAEZ: Ramon Paez, P-A-E-Z, MTA, New York City Transit,
15	Office of System Safety.
16	MR. HENRY: Mark Henry, ATU Local 1056, President, H-E-N-R-Y.
17	MR. BRYAN: Davon Bryan, B-R-Y-A-N, bus operator.
18	MR. BRAGG: Okay. And this interview is in reference to the
19	bus crash which occurred on Monday, September 18th. And it is
20	with your knowledge and consent that this interview is being
21	recorded; is that correct?
22	MR. BRYAN: That's correct.
23	MR. BRAGG: Okay.
24	INTERVIEW OF DAVON BRYAN
25	BY MR. BRAGG:

- 1 Q. So how long have you been a commercial vehicle operator?
- 2 A. Ten years.
- 3 Q. Ten years?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And where did you first obtain your commercial driver's
- 6 license?
- 7 A. From New York City Transit.
- 8 Q. And have you ever operated a commercial vehicle for another
- 9 company?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. No. And what class license do you have?
- 12 A. B, Class B.
- 13 Q. Class B?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And what type of endorsements do you have, if any?
- 16 A. Passengers --
- 17 Q. Passenger?
- 18 A. Passenger.
- 19 Q. Okay. And the bus you operate, what type of bus is it that
- 20 you normally operate?
- 21 A. It's a -- it was a hybrid.
- 22 Q. Hybrid?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And how many passengers?
- 25 A. Approximately about 50.

- 1 Q. About 50? And does the vehicle use air brakes?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And have you ever driven a commercial vehicle in addition to
- 4 | your employment here, like on a part-time basis?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Do you work another part-time job somewhere?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. No. This is -- so this is your only source of employment?
- 9 And are you married with kids or --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. How long you been married?
- 12 A. Twelve years.
- 13 Q. Twelve years. How many kids you have?
- 14 A. Three.
- 15 Q. Three. And their ages?
- 16 A. 19, 10 and 3.
- 17 Q. Okay. When was your last CDL medical exam?
- 18 A. Last year, because New York City Transit -- it goes now by
- 19 your -- the year, if it's a odd year or even year. So I was
- 20 scheduled to go next year.
- 21 Q. Next year?
- 22 A. Yeah, even, which is 2018.
- 23 Q. Okay. So you -- so then you have a 2-year certification
- 24 medical exam?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Have you ever received less than a 2-year cert?
- 2 A. Have I --
- 3 Q. Have you ever received less than a 2-year medical
- 4 | certification?
- 5 A. No. We usually go once a year to do -- I'm sorry -- prior to
- 6 our birthday, each year of our birthday, yes.
- 7 Q. Have you ever been denied --
- 8 A. We do certification, yes.
- 9 Q. Have you ever been denied medical certification?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. No. Is there any medical conditions that's listed on your
- 12 CDL?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. How about glasses? Do you wear glasses?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Okay. And through your employment here at MTA, do you have
- 17 medical insurance?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And do you have a primary care physician?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 O. You know his name?
- 22 A. It's Dr. Khan.
- 23 Q. Do you know his first name?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. And where's his office located?

- 1 A. It's located on Springfield Boulevard.
- 2 Q. And what city is that?
- 3 A. In Queens.
- 4 Q. And do you see another physician regularly?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Have you ever been diagnosed or treated for any ongoing
- 7 medical conditions like diabetes, glaucoma, anything like that?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Okay. When was the last time you went to see your doctor?
- 10 A. It's been a while. To go back, to backtrack, I see for
- 11 psoriasis, you know, maybe once every 6 years.
- 12 Q. And you see whom for that?
- 13 A. I see -- it's like a dermatologist.
- 14 Q. See a dermatologist?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. Okay. How old are you?
- 17 A. I'm 45.
- 18 Q. Forty-five. And your height and weight?
- 19 A. Excuse me?
- 20 Q. Your height and weight?
- 21 A. I'm 5'6", 222.
- 22 Q. And how do you sleep at night? I mean, do you sleep well?
- 23 Do you have to take medication to sleep?
- 24 A. No. I sleep well at night, yes.
- Q. Has your wife ever told you that you snore?

- 1 A. Once in a while, yes.
- 2 Q. Once in a while?
- 3 A. Yeah. Not often.
- 4 Q. She doesn't elbow you like my wife does --
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Okay. What type -- what size shirt do you wear, like dress
- 7 | shirt? If you're going to go -- if you're going to go buy a new
- 8 dress shirt and you're going to look at the neck, what size dress
- 9 shirt would you wear?
- 10 A. Seventeen --
- 11 Q. Seventeen?
- 12 A. Sixteen/17, yeah.
- 13 Q. What was the last prescribed medication that you took?
- 14 A. Prednisone and minocycline.
- 15 Q. Prednisone, that's for psoriasis?
- 16 A. Yeah. Inflammation, yes.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 O. And who issued that medication?
- 20 A. I am sure the primary.
- 21 Q. Your primary?
- 22 A. And also, if I need to get it, I go to a dermatologist also.
- 23 Q. Okay. And what pharmacy do you normally go to?
- 24 A. Walgreens.
- 25 Q. You go to Walgreens? Okay

- 1 And do you have a personal cell phone?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And what type of phone is it?
- 4 A. It's the S7.
- 5 Q. So it's a Samsung?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. And who's your carrier?
- 8 A. Sprint.
- 9 Q. Sprint. And what's your cell phone number?
- 10 A.
- 11 Q. --
- 12 A.
- 13 Q. Is that the only phone you have?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And do you share the phone with anybody?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Do you have a work phone?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. No?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Were you using the phone when the crash occurred?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. When was the most recent time that you used the phone prior
- 24 to the crash?
- 25 A. I used it on my layover. I was taking a picture of the

- 1 (indiscernible) to send to one of the co-worker, to let her know
- 2 that this run was a beautiful run.
- 3 Q. So what's your normal work schedule? Your normal workday,
- 4 | what time do you start and what time do you finish?
- 5 A. I usually work 12 midnight -- 12:47, and the run clears at
- 6 9:44.
- 7 Q. And how many days a week do you work?
- 8 A. Usually just 5.
- 9 Q. Do you --
- 10 A. Six if there's overtime, then I may do 6, yes.
- 11 Q. And what -- do you have regular days off?
- 12 A. I have Monday/Tuesday.
- 13 Q. Monday and Tuesday. So the day of the crash, when you got up
- 14 | that morning --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- then you would be off for the next 2 days. Is that --
- 17 A. One day. Because the day of the crash was an odd deal. I
- 18 was on vacation prior to Saturday, and I came in Saturday night
- 19 for Sunday morning, and I finished Sunday morning at 9:44 in the
- 20 morning, Sunday morning, and I reported Monday morning at 3:54.
- 21 Q. So -- okay. Let's talk about that a little bit clearer. So
- 22 | the day of the crash, what time did you start your shift?
- 23 A. 3:54 in the morning.
- 24 Q. 3:54. And this is Monday morning, right?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And what time had you planned to be off?
- 2 A. The run clears at 12:13.
- 3 Q. P.M.?
- 4 A. P.M., yes.
- 5 Q. And this was an overtime shift; is that correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. So prior to 3:54 a.m., what time did you get up?
- 8 A. 3- -- prior to that, about -- I think 2 -- 1:50, I had set
- 9 the alarm; 2:00 in the morning. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. So you set the alarm at 1:50.
- 11 A. 1:50.
- 12 Q. You do the alarm clock pound, like I do, a couple times?
- 13 A. Yeah, and then I got up at 2.
- 14 Q. You got up at 2. And get dressed for work?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. How long does it take you to drive to work?
- 17 A. About -- at that time, about 30 minutes.
- 18 O. About 30 minutes?
- 19 A. Thirty -- 30, yeah; 30, 35 minutes.
- 20 Q. The route that you were driving on the morning of the crash,
- 21 | is that your normal route?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. No. How many times have you --
- 24 A. Yes, actually, with the 44. Because it actually, it's a
- 25 | local -- I was doing the local trip.

- 1 Q. Okay.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. So --
- 4 A. That's usually my usual route, yes.
- 5 Q. So it's your usual route but the time's a little different;
- 6 is that correct?
- 7 A. Yes. And, yes, that's a different bus, yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. So what time did you go to bed the night before?
- 9 A. About 8.
- 10 Q. About 8 p.m.?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And you slept well through the night?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. No phone calls?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Okay. So what did you do the day before you went to bed?
- 17 A. That day?
- 18 Q. Yeah, during the day.
- 19 A. Other stuff --
- 20 Q. Yeah.
- 21 A. Prior to me cleaning -- clearing up Sunday morning, I went
- 22 | home and I watched a few footballs games.
- 23 Q. So you just basically relaxed around the house?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And so that's Sunday night. What did you do -- what

- 1 | time did you get up Sunday morning?
- 2 A. Sunday morning, I was finishing working Sunday morning.
- 3 Q. Okay. So you finished your shift?
- 4 A. Yeah, I started -- yes, I started early.
- 5 Q. What time did you start the shift before?
- 6 A. 12:47 was the report time Sunday morning.
- 7 Q. And then you got off at?
- 8 A. At 9- -- I'm off the bus at 9:25 a.m.
- 9 Q. 9:25 a.m. Sunday?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. So you get off at 9:25, 9:25 a.m.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. What do you do? Do you go right to bed or --
- 14 A. Straight -- I went straight home.
- 15 Q. Went straight to bed?
- 16 A. Yes, straight home.
- 17 Q. Okay. You went straight home, but did you go to bed or did
- 18 you -- were you with the family or --
- 19 A. Yeah, with the family for a little while.
- 20 Q. All right.
- 21 A. And with my son, we watched a football game till I went to
- 22 | sleep, till I told him I'm going to sleep.
- 23 Q. And what time was that?
- 24 A. That's when I started -- I fell asleep around, about 8. I
- 25 | went upstairs about 7-something.

- 1 Q. Okay.
- 2 A. Yeah.
- 3 Q. Do you drink alcohol?
- 4 A. No. I don't drink and I don't smoke.
- 5 Q. Okay. So that's Sunday morning. What did you do Saturday?
- 6 A. Saturday I was on vacation. Actually Saturday -- yes. So I
- 7 just relaxed in the house.
- 8 Q. So how many days were you on vacation?
- 9 A. For 7 days.
- 10 Q. So you were on -- starting Saturday, counting back to the
- 11 previous Friday?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. All right. So what did you do Saturday?
- 14 A. Saturday?
- 15 Q. Do you know what time you got up?
- 16 A. My usual, probably around 7 -- 7, 8, yes.
- 17 Q. In the morning?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And what did you do all day?
- 20 A. Just relaxed.
- 21 O. Just relaxed around --
- 22 A. In the house.
- 23 Q. -- in the house?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. How about 7 p.m.?

- 1 A. Excuse me?
- 2 Q. What time did you go to bed Saturday?
- 3 A. Saturday night I went to bed about 5; 5 going on 6.
- 4 Q. All right. And you went to bed at 5 or 6 knowing that you
- 5 had to work Sunday?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. But not till Sunday?
- 8 A. Excuse me?
- 9 Q. What time did you work Sunday, again?
- 10 A. I worked from 12:47. That's my report time.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. All right. Let's go back to Friday. What time did you get
- 14 up on Friday?
- 15 A. I took my daughter to school, so I woke her up about 6:30.
- 16 So I got up about 6:15.
- 17 Q. Okay. And what time did you go to bed Friday night?
- 18 A. About 5, 6, because my body's kind of conditioned.
- 19 Q. So about 5 or 6 p.m.?
- 20 A. Six, yes, I usually try to get some sleep.
- 21 Q. And what did you do in the -- what did you do during the day
- 22 on Friday?
- 23 A. Nothing. Just took my daughter to school and then came back
- 24 home.
- 25 Q. Took her to school and you came back home and just --

- 1 A. Yes, and just relax.
- 2 Q. Okay. This is the last day I'm going to ask about. What
- 3 | time did you get up Thursday?
- 4 A. Usually the same routine.
- 5 Q. Okay.
- 6 A. Yeah.
- 7 Q. Took your daughter to school?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Relaxed around the house all day and then -- and then you
- 10 went to bed in the evening --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. -- about 5 or 6?
- Would you say that you're a heavy cell phone user, you use
- 14 | your cell phone a lot? I'm not talking about while you're at
- 15 work. I'm just talking about in general.
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. No. Are you a talker or a texter?
- 18 A. I'll rather -- if I need to speak to whoever I'm speaking to,
- 19 I'll rather call than text them. I'm not too much of a --
- 20 Q. All right. So let's talk about the morning of the crash.
- 21 All right? And so you report to work about 3:54 a.m.
- 22 A. Yes, that's the time of the shift. Yes.
- 23 Q. And I would imagine it's -- you're used to being up at that
- 24 | time; is that correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. So how did you feel that morning?
- 2 A. Great. I'm on -- I was on vacation.
- 3 Q. Yeah. And so tell me about your morning.
- 4 A. It was --
- 5 Q. And let me be more specific. What do you do when you get to
- 6 work, when you first walk in the door?
- 7 A. Report upstairs.
- 8 Q. Okay.
- 9 A. They assign the bus that I'm going to take into service.
- 10 Q. Do you always drive the same bus or --
- 11 A. No. Each day they assign you a different bus number.
- 12 Q. Okay.
- 13 A. Yes. So I got my bus, pre-checked it, made sure everything
- 14 is good.
- 15 Q. How long does it take you to do the pre-check?
- 16 A. Pre-check, you know, doesn't take long. You usually walk --
- 17 make sure there is no scratches on the bus. Make sure everything
- 18 is good on the bus. Usually, 3 to 5 minutes.
- 19 Q. And did you observe anything unusual about the bus?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. How about the bus -- how about the way the bus drove that --
- 22 A. The bus drove beautiful.
- 23 Q. So I would imagine that some buses are better than others?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. So you get -- there's just -- there's always that one

- 1 | vehicle, every time you get that vehicle you kind of, you know,
- 2 | curse under your breath. How was this bus? Was it -- what did --
- 3 A. It drove pretty good.
- 4 Q. Okay. So then, okay, you do your pre-check and then what
- 5 happened?
- 6 A. Then I'm one of those guys, I usually -- I try to make sure,
- 7 you know, and disinfect the bus. And then I had to drive it to
- 8 the start part of the location.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. And then from there I went into service, passenger service.
- 11 Q. Okay. And so there was nothing unusual that morning?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. All right. So let's go up to the point where you're on Main
- 14 Street and you're about to turn -- looked to make that right turn.
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 Q. Tell me -- describe that.
- 17 A. As -- with that, with the 20 run, the time point, I'm keeping
- 18 that time point. So actually I would approach at Main Street --
- 19 the time point is between 6:11 and 6:14.
- 20 0. So there's --
- 21 A. That's the time point.
- 22 Q. There's like a 4-minute window between you --
- 23 A. That's letting -- you know, boarding the passengers.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. So as I leave the stand from servicing that bus stop, as I'm

- 1 | approaching Northern Boulevard and Main Street, which is -- that's
- 2 | also a bus stop that I had to service, I saw the police car parked
- 3 there. So I basically serviced the bus stop behind the other --
- 4 | the bus stop prior to my stop, which is a few feet behind from
- 5 where my regular service. Yes.
- 6 Q. So there's a police car sitting there?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And he's kind of in your -- where you normally stop?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. So you --
- 11 A. Well, not really, because the bus stop is such --
- 12 Q. So big?
- 13 A. Yes. So I --
- 14 Q. So you stopped behind the police car?
- 15 A. Yes. Yes. And basically --
- 16 Q. And at that point, did passengers board or --
- 17 A. Three passengers. I remember three passengers.
- 18 Q. Three passengers got on?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. How many got off?
- 21 A. None.
- 22 Q. None. And was that -- is that a normal, you know, type of
- 23 | ridership that time in the morning?
- 24 A. Well, that run was an overtime run for me.
- 25 Q. Okay. So you don't normally do that --

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Okay.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. So passengers board.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And then what happened?
- 7 A. As -- once I -- because I remember there was a older senior
- 8 citizen person. I watched her from the back as she actually
- 9 approached the back of the bus. I made sure she sat down.
- 10 As I'm approaching, I pull -- looked to my left, scanned my
- 11 mirror to the left to make sure it was clear. As I'm approaching,
- 12 the light is green. As I'm going around, making -- scanning both
- 13 my mirrors --
- 14 Q. Uh-huh.
- 15 A. -- because we're all -- you know, the operators, we're all
- 16 aware that right there is also a heavy -- we have to be very
- 17 | cautious at that area.
- 18 Q. So you know that to be like a high-traffic area?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. What's your experience on the speed of traffic in the area?
- 21 A. The speed?
- 22 Q. The speed, yes. Is it normally heavily congested and traffic
- 23 moves slow or it is -- at that time of morning, you expect traffic
- 24 | to be flowing?
- 25 A. It was -- at that time it was real slow.

- 1 Q. Okay.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. I'm sorry. Now go ahead.
- 4 A. Yes. So I -- as I'm approaching the intersection, I'm
- 5 scanning my mirrors to the left and to the right, making sure
- 6 there is no pedestrian with the green, making sure no passenger
- 7 | is -- no pedestrian's crossing, also, and also to my left and
- 8 making sure the intersection is clear. If -- so in front of me, I
- 9 think there was a bus on the other side on Northern that stopped.
- 10 Q. What type --
- 11 A. I looked to my left --
- 12 Q. What type of bus?
- 13 A. A regular MTA transit bus.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. Looked to my left again, because also to make sure there's no
- 16 car try to come around the bus. And I continue to look, made sure
- 17 | the intersection was clear. The light is green and I proceeded
- 18 | into my turn. As I'm into my turn, I'm also scanning, looked to
- 19 my right to make sure there's no pedestrian also. And I'm
- 20 gradually making the turn. As I'm into the turn, I just felt a --
- 21 feel a big emotion, I mean --
- 22 Q. Impact?
- 23 A. -- impact.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. And I don't know if it was a -- in my mind, after the bus --

- 1 I just felt the bus spinning. And --
- 2 MR. BRAGG: It's okay. Take a minute. All right. Let's
- 3 | take a -- let's go ahead and pause here for a little bit.
- 4 (Off the record.)
- 5 (On the record.)
- 6 BY MR. BRAGG:
- 7 Q. After you felt impact --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- and you felt the bus spinning, which way was the bus
- 10 facing? Was it still facing in the direction you were traveling?
- 11 A. No. I just -- I felt -- the bus went kind of this way. I
- 12 actually, I just felt it spin.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. I didn't know which direction I was going. I thought maybe,
- 15 | with the impact, once the bus stopped, I don't know if it was -- I
- 16 | felt like it was a bomb or something that just -- because prior to
- 17 being in the intersection, there was nothing clear.
- 18 That light also, we also have the green to turn, so I'm not
- 19 expecting -- once a I look to my left, made sure the intersection
- 20 | is clear, I'm not expecting something. So when that happened,
- 21 | it's like, what happened? You know, just that explosion, that big
- 22 | impact. And once the bus stopped, I could hear the passengers
- 23 screaming and the bus just went dark, complete -- once the impact,
- 24 the bus just went dark.
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. And then I just -- I got out the seat, took off my seatbelt,
- 2 | got out the bus to make sure the passengers, they was okay. And
- 3 | then it's just smoke started coming on the bus and, you know,
- 4 there was a few passengers on the floor. I tried to see -- you
- 5 know, help whoever was on the floor, and then I tried to open the
- 6 door. The door wouldn't open on the bus.
- 7 And then there's an air-release valve, and I kept trying to
- 8 turn it, turn it, turn it. And that's how I was able to
- 9 open the door and try to get some of the passengers off the bus.
- 10 And then I -- then I took my cell phone and I actually called
- 11 our console, because the -- there was nothing on the bus, like, to
- 12 press to call our console. Usually we would press the PRTT to
- 13 | alert that there's an incident. So I used my cell phone and
- 14 called the console while I'm trying to get the passengers off the
- 15 bus, to let them know there was a real severe accident.
- 16 And one of the things he asked me, he said, do I need
- 17 | medical? I said, yes, it's very severe. I said, there's a lot of
- 18 passengers that really got hurt; there's blood everywhere.
- 19 O. Now --
- 20 A. And then the cops that came, came to the bus. And I guess he
- 21 called it in also.
- 22 Q. When you were coming up to the intersection before you were
- 23 beginning your turn --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. -- how far could you see down the road to your left?

- 1 A. To the far -- I know I saw a good, maybe -- maybe a block and
- 2 a half or so.
- 3 Q. And did you see any vehicles?
- 4 A. I think there was one. If I could -- I'm not sure, but I
- 5 think there was a car.
- 6 Q. You think there was a passenger car?
- 7 A. A car at the light, stopped.
- 8 Q. Okay.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And this was at the light closest to you or the one further
- 11 down?
- 12 A. The one closest. That's the one on Northern Boulevard to my
- 13 left.
- 14 Q. Okay. Okay.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And you didn't have any indication that the bus was
- 17 | approaching?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. No.
- 20 A. There was -- that my bus?
- 21 Q. No, the other bus that --
- 22 A. No. No.
- 23 Q. -- the bus that struck you.
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. So your first indication that the other bus was present

- 1 | was --
- 2 A. I didn't know what hit me, honestly.
- 3 Q. All right. You didn't -- okay.
- 4 A. Until impact.
- 5 Q. So you didn't know it was a bus until after the crash?
- 6 A. I didn't know until once we got out and we actually saw what
- 7 | was -- and, I mean, even one of the -- the passenger that got hurt
- 8 also, that was on the floor, he was like, where did that bus even
- 9 came from? We didn't know where that bus came from.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. Because the first, initial thought, I thought it was like a
- 12 bomb with that kind of impact. Because, I mean, it was -- at that
- 13 time there was really -- the traffic was so light, there was
- 14 nothing in the intersection.
- 15 |Q. Okay. Let's just -- let's shift a little bit to talk about
- 16 your driving history. What year did you first obtain your CDL?
- 17 A. 2007.
- 18 Q. And what year did you first obtain your driver's license?
- 19 A. That was in college, which is '91, 1991.
- 20 Q. And what state was that?
- 21 A. New York.
- 22 Q. It was New York?
- 23 A. Yeah.
- Q. You've lived in New York pretty much your whole life?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Have you ever had any traffic tickets?
- 2 A. Any --
- 3 Q. Any traffic tickets?
- 4 A. Traffic tickets? Yes. It's been a long time.
- 5 Q. Been a long time. Have you had -- have you ever had any
- 6 traffic tickets since you've been employed as a MTA operator?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. No. And when did you first start working for MTA?
- 9 A. 2007.
- 10 Q. And your first position with MTA, was that -- was as a bus
- 11 operator, correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And that's all you've ever done for MTA?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. Have you ever had any traffic tickets while operating
- 16 a commercial vehicle?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Have you ever had any crashes while operating a commercial
- 19 vehicle?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Have you had --
- 22 A. Oh, commercial?
- 23 Q. Yeah, any bus --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. How many?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. How many?
- 3 A. Maybe three --
- 4 Q. Maybe three?
- 5 A. -- yes. So --
- 6 Q. And those crashes, did any of them involve injury?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Were they minor or major accidents?
- 9 A. They're minor and they're not some -- Transit ruled
- 10 non-preventable.
- 11 Q. Okay. So all three of them were ruled as --
- 12 A. Yeah. Yeah.
- 13 Q. -- non-preventable?
- 14 A. No, not all three. No.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. About -- yeah, about three, three or four, I guess.
- 17 Q. Have you ever been suspended from your employment?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Have you ever had any discipline related to your driving a
- 20 bus?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Have you ever had a driver's license suspended?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. And you own a personal car; is that correct?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. You don't? You don't own a personal car?
- 2 A. Yes, I do.
- 3 Q. Oh, okay.
- 4 A. You said suspended. No.
- 5 Q. Okay. But you own a personal car?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And who's your car insurance through?
- 8 A. GEICO. Well, it was GEICO; now it's Liberty Mutual.
- 9 Q. Okay. How long ago did you switch?
- 10 A. Since -- I switched this year.
- 11 Q. Have you ever been treated for substance abuse?
- 12 A. No, I don't drink.
- 13 Q. You don't drink. How about drugs? You ever have to, you
- 14 know --
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. You have never used drugs --
- 17 A. Excuse me? No.
- 18 MR. BRAGG: Okay. Does anyone in the room right here --
- 19 right now have any questions?
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.
- MR. BRAGG: So I don't have any further questions. I'm going
- 22 to go ahead and conclude the interview. It's now 7:37 a.m.
- 23 Thank you for your cooperation.
- 24 (Whereupon, at 7:37 a.m., the interview was concluded.)

#### CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: NY MTA TRANSIT BUS AND MOTORCOACH

CRASH in FLUSHING, NEW YORK

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

Interview of Davon Bryan

ACCIDENT NO.: HWY17MH015

PLACE: New York

DATE: September 21, 2017

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.

Traci Williamson Transcriber