

DCA14FR005

Film Crew Struck by Freight Train

CSX Transportation

February 20, 2014

Interview Summary
Writer/Producer
With Interviewee Comments

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD		Accident Information:
Record of: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Interview Date: June 26, 2014 Location: Los Angeles, California		February 20, 2014 Jesup, Georgia DCA14FR005
Person Interviewed: Jody Savin Writer/Producer	Also Present: Matthew P. Stone Attorney	
<p>The Writer/Producer reported the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The writer/producer was not present at the location scout in early February. – She said that it was her understanding that the location scout staff had been taken out to the property by the property owners. – On the day of the accident, the writer/producer went to a trailer to assist an actor. She was off to the side of the tracks when the two trains came through. – She reported that she then walked back towards their trucks for water. – She said that she heard screaming about another train as she was heading back to the filming location. – She reported that she did not see any details about what had happened. – The writer/producer reported that she was not present for the safety briefings. – She heard that a location scout had told people to expect two trains and that the location scout had heard this from someone with Rayonier. – The writer/producer reported that she had introduced herself to the Rayonier employee at the location and that two Rayonier guards were nearby. – The writer/producer said that after the accident, many people including the sheriff arrived quickly. – The writer/producer said that it was her understanding that they had permission from Rayonier and that they were good to go. 		
Interviewers:		
Dana Sanzo	Investigator-in-Charge	
Rick Narvell	Human Performance Investigator	

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Matthew P. Stone
Partner

Writer's Direct Access

*Admitted in GA & CA

October 14, 2014

By E-Mail Only

Ms. Dana Sanzo
National Transportation Safety Board

Re: Date of Accident : February 20, 2014
 Location of Accident : Jesup, Georgia
 Reference No. : DCA14FR005

Dear Dana:

I am writing in response to your offer to allow my clients to clarify or correct the summaries you provided. They request the changes below.

Randall Miller:

- The sentence beginning “There were a few briefings . . .” should state: “There were a few safety briefings prior to filming.”
- The sentence “Two of the camera crew on the tracks, and the two were able to get off the tracks” should be deleted.
- The sentence beginning “He fell down . . .” should state: “He fell down, and has been told that a still photographer pulled him off the tracks.” He does not remember being pulled off the tracks.

Jody Savin:

- The sentences beginning “On the day of the accident . . .” and “She was off to the side . . .” should be combined to state: “On the day of the accident, the writer/producer was off to the side of the tracks when the two trains came through.”

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- The words “and that two Rayonier guards were nearby” is not accurate and should be deleted.

Hillary Schwartz:

- The words “and locations manager” should be added at the end of the second sentence, beginning “Others present were”
- The sentence beginning “She was told that two trains . . .” should state: “She was told by the locations department assistant Stephanie Humphreys that two trains would pass by.”
- The sentence beginning “She and a few . . .” should state: “She and others made it off the tracks.”
- The sentence beginning “She saw people crouched . . .” should state: “She saw people crouched down next to the trestle and others holding onto the trestle; and after the train stopped, she saw the victim that was killed next to the train.”
- The sentence beginning “Immediately after the accident . . .” should state: “Immediately after the accident, the Rayonier employee who was on site but who had been standing off to the side, came running to the tracks, was very upset, and asked what was going on.”
- The words “and unexpected” should be added to the end of the sentence beginning “The arrival of”
- The following sentence should be added before the sentence “She thought it was okay to film”: “After the two trains passed, the assistant locations manager Stephanie Humphreys stated that no additional trains were expected.”
- The sentence beginning “When they were on the trestle . . .” should state: “When they were on the trestle, an actor asked how long they would have to clear the tracks if there was another train.”
- The sentence beginning “An assistant to the location manager . . .” should state: “An assistant to the location manager responded that it would take 60 seconds for a

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train to reach them; the assistant stated that if there was another train it would be coming from the same direction as the first two trains.”

- The sentence beginning “The location manager forwarded . . .” should state: “The location manager forwarded an email from CSX to her, the production manager, the production designer, the writer/producer, and the director/producer.”
- The sentence beginning “On February 20 . . .” should state: “On February 20, the locations manager Charley Baxter asked her about this email. She told Baxter to speak with the writer/producer and unit production manager.”
- The sentence beginning “Some of the crew said . . .” should state: “The email said that CSX could not support the filming.”
- The sentence beginning “Some including the location manager . . .” should state: “The location manager interpreted the email to mean that it was still okay to film.”
- The phrase words “and had been in contact with CSX” should be added to the end of the last sentence, beginning “She relied on the judgment . . .”

Thank you for providing the interviewed parties an opportunity to review and comment on the interview summaries. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns about these changes.

Sincerely,

Matt

Matthew P. Stone

MPS/kef

cc: Kori E. Flake, Esq.
Ms. Hillary Schwartz (by e-mail)
Mr. Randall Miller (by e-mail)
Mrs. Jody Savin (by e-mail)