

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
Office of Railroad, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Investigations**

**ORAL INTERVIEW**

**Person Conducting Interview:**                      **Place of Interview:**                      **Date:**  
  
**Name**                      Cyril E. Gura                      Tarrytown, NY                      02/07/2015  
**Code**                      RPH – 10  
**Title**                      Safety Engineer

**Other parties involved in the interview:**

**Type of Interview:**                      **Location of Interview:** (Check one)  
  
 X  Telephone                            Personal                            Office                       X  Field

**Name of Person Interviewed:**                      **Title:**  
  
Michael Mezzacappa                      Defense attorney

**Contact Information:**                      **Type of Operation:**  
  
                      Concerned citizen

(Statements are paraphrased)

Mr. Mezzacappa said that he left his office about 6:22 p.m. He said his normal route was to go south on Taconic State Parkway. As he passed Commerce Street and went toward Lakeview Avenue; the Taconic Parkway was closed. He had to detour west on Lakeview. After he crossed the railroad tracks he saw a police vehicle and officer that appeared to be stopping vehicles from traveling east on Lakeview and onto the Taconic Parkway. He noticed many vehicles trying to find a way through the cemetery and was detouring onto Commerce St. He said there was complete pandemonium with people trying to find an alternate route through the cemetery.

Mr. Mezzacappa said that he owns a Mercedes Benz. He said the shifter is like a wiper blade control on the right hand side of the column. He said there is a button at the end of the lever that needs to be pushed in while stepping on the brake to shift from park to reverse or forward. He said that both he and his wife had made mistakes before by shifting the car into one direction and wanted to go in an opposite direction.