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**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**

Office of Research and Engineering  
Materials Laboratory Division  
Washington, D.C. 20594



9/21/2015

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**MATERIALS LABORATORY FACTUAL REPORT**Report No. 15-102

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**A. ACCIDENT INFORMATION**

Place : Washington, DC  
Date : January 12, 2015 3:15 p.m. EST  
Vehicle : WMATA train #302 Yellow Line  
NTSB No. : DCA15FR004  
Investigator : Robert Gordon

**B. COMPONENTS EXAMINED**

1. Debris sample taken from the area of origin
2. Debris sample taken as a control sample away from the area of origin.

**C. DETAILS OF THE EXAMINATION**

On the night of the accident ATF investigators on scene collected a sample of debris from the area of origin of the arcing event. A control sample was also taken for comparison away from the area of origin. These samples were sent to the ATF laboratory to test for the presence of hydrocarbons. The ATF lab report is attached to this document.

Joseph Panagiotou  
Fire & Explosion Investigator



U. S. Department of Justice

Forensic Science Laboratory - Washington  
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

6000 Ammendale Road  
AMMENDALE, MD 20705-1250  
Phone: 202-648-6100

## Laboratory Report

Accredited by ASCLD/LAB

Special Agent Chad Campanell  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
7799 Leesburg Pike  
North Tower, Suite 1050  
Falls Church, VA 22043

Date of Report: January 23, 2015  
Lab Number: 15N0017(1)  
Reference: 768015-15-0016  
Title: L'Enfant Plaza Metro Fire  
Type of Exam: Fire Debris

The evidence described below was delivered to the laboratory on January 20, 2015, by Special Agent Chad Campanell.

### EXHIBITS

- I-001. Quart can containing fire debris taken from the area of origin
- I-002. Quart can containing debris taken as a comparison sample for I-001
- I-003. Plastic bag containing debris


### EXAMINATION/ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

No ignitable liquids were identified in Exhibit I-001 or I-002.

No ignitable liquid analysis was requested on Exhibit I-003.


### DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE

All exhibits and applicable preserved extracts will be forwarded to the Fire Research Laboratory.

  
Lisa M. Schwenk  
Forensic Chemist

LMS/lms

REVIEWED BY:

  
Raymond J. Kuk, Chief  
Arson & Explosives Section II