

## **Survival Factors Attachment- Medical Pathology interviews**

Biloxi, Mississippi

HWY17MH010

(3 pages)

## Gary Hargrove, Harrison County Coroner

The interview was conducted at the pathology lab during the autopsies of the victims. In attendance was the County Coroner, Dr. Mark LeVaughn, State Medical Examiner and his team and Corporal George Chaix of the Biloxi Police Department.

Mr. Gary Hargrove reports that he was notified of the crash and responded to the scene. Upon his arrival, he was briefed by the fire department personnel and took charge of the three individuals that had been pronounced on the scene. Mr. Hargrove was advised by medical staff that Mrs. Debbie Orr and a second female passenger were not expected to survive. Mr. Hargrove made the notification to the state Medical Examiner. Mr. Hargrave advised that under Mississippi law, a documented accidental death (non-criminal) does not require an autopsy. However, after some discussion with the state medical examiner, it was decided that autopsies would be performed on all the victims.

Mr. Hargrave spoke to the wife of the decedent, Mr. Clint Havran. Mrs. Havran advised that she and her husband were seated in Seats #53 and #54. They had seen the passengers starting to get off the bus but were unware of the reason why. Mrs. Havran advised the coroner that she and her husband stood up and moved into the aisle-way. They were trying to decide what to do when the train struck the bus. Mr. Hargrave noted that the two seats had been near the rear of the bus and that Mrs. Havran believed that they were standing near the rear lavatory. Mr. Havran was extricated from the bus by the fire department. He sustained no visible life-threatening injuries and it was believed that he suffered a heart attack resulting from the crash.

Mr. Hargrave advised that it was believed that Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman had been standing alongside the bus at the time of the collision and were run over as a result.

Mr. Hargrave reported that Mrs. Orr was seated on the aisle next to her husband, who sat at the window. Mr. Orr reported that his wife got up and moved into the aisle to evacuate the bus. Mrs. Orr began moving forward towards the front door. Mr. Orr reported that he became trapped due to all the other passengers that crowded the aisle. He remained seated. Mr. Orr advised that he lost sight of his wife after the train struck the bus.

## Dr. Mark LeVaughn, Mississippi State Medical Examiner

After the autopsies, Dr. LeVaughn provided an oral report of his findings. Passengers, Kenneth Hoffman, Peggy Hoffman and Debbie Orr received injuries consistent with being run over by the motorcoach and the train. This supported witness testimony and scene evidence that indicated that several of the passengers were outside of the motorcoach when it was struck by the train. The train pushed the motorcoach into this group of passengers resulting in the run over.

Dr. LeVaughn reported that the autopsy performed on Mr. Clint Havran, the only passenger that had been inside of the motorcoach at the time of the collision, revealed that Mr. Havran did not succumb to a heart attack during the incident. Mr. Clint Havran sustained fatal fractures to the The statement of facts provided by the decedent's wife was consistent with the type of injury Mr. Havran sustained.

(Mrs. Havran reported that her husband was standing up, unsupported at the time of the collision. He was found lying face down on the floor after the crash.)

The autopsies of each victim are filed under the following report numbers.

ME# Hoffman, Peggy

ME# Hoffman, Kenneth

ME# Orr, Debbie (Deborah)

ME# Havran, Clint