

## NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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IN RE: :  
 :  
THE AMTRAK ACCIDENT : NTSB Accident No.  
IN WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA: DCA16FR009  
ON JULY 6, 2016 :  
 :  
----- :

INTERVIEW OF: IMTINEAZ KHAN

(Date and time not given)  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

BEFORE

KALU KELLY EMEABA, NTSB  
RICHARD RUSNAK, FRA  
RICHARD PAGE, NTSB  
OFFICER JAMES INGRASSIA, West Palm Beach Police  
Department  
RUSSELL HUNTER, FRA  
NILES BLAZE, VTMI

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provided by the National Transportation Safety Board.

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (Not given)

3 MR. PAGE: -- Investigator in charge of the  
4 West Palm Beach, Amtrak Train collision that occurred  
5 on July 6, 2016. For the record, Mr. Khan, would you  
6 state your name, title and position?

7 MR. KHAN: Name is Imtineaz Khan. Title is  
8 signal and communications manager with VTMI.

9 Okay. The purpose of this investigation is  
10 to increase safety, not to assign fault, blame or  
11 liability. The NTSB cannot offer any guarantee of  
12 confidentiality, immunity or legal or certificate  
13 actions. A transcript or summary of the interview will  
14 go into the public docket.

15 You may have a representative of your  
16 choice. You may have one representative. It may be an  
17 attorney, but it is not required to be an attorney.  
18 Any questions?

19 MR. KHAN: No.

20 MR. PAGE: Okay, Riky Page. On the day of  
21 the accident, July 6th, 2016, can you recollect the  
22 events that occurred?

23 MR. KHAN: Yes.

24 MR. PAGE: The events that occurred on, I'd  
25 like to stop. I forgot to introduce everyone. So my

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1 name is Ricky Page, I'm the IIC with the NTSB.

2 MR. EMEABA: My name is Kalu Kelly Emeaba,  
3 K-A-L-U, K-E-L-L-Y, last name, E-M-E-A-B-A. I'm an  
4 NTSB investigator.

5 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Officer James Ingrassia.  
6 Last name, I-N-G-R-A-S-S-I-A. IAID 1857 of the West  
7 Palm Beach Police Department, Traffic Homicide  
8 Division.

9 MR. HUNTER: Russell Hunter, Federal  
10 Railroad Administration, signal train control  
11 inspector.

12 MR. RUSNAK: Riky Rusnak, R-U-S-N-A-K.  
13 Chief inspector, FRA, Region III.

14 MR. BLAZE: Niles Blaze, manager, general  
15 manager, for VTMI.

16 MR. PAGE: Riky Page. We'll resume our  
17 questioning. Mr. Khan, can you recollect the events  
18 that occurred on July 6th, 2016? In reference to the  
19 accident at 25th Street.

20 MR. KHAN: Yes I can.

21 MR. PAGE: Would you review those please?  
22 Give me your recollection of those events.

23 MR. KHAN: Yes. I was in my office getting  
24 some paperwork up to date. Got a call from Mr. Perez  
25 saying that a train had just hit a car at the crossing



1 on 25th Street.

2 I asked him if he was at the location, he  
3 said, yes, he is. I asked him if the gates were down,  
4 he said, they were going back up.

5 I said, were the gates down? He said, well  
6 they started to go back up. I said, hold on a second.  
7 Were the gates down when the train went through the  
8 crossing? He said, no. I said, all right, stay put,  
9 let me make the appropriate calls and I'll get back  
10 with you.

11 So that's when I notified John Marquette. I  
12 made all the calls to our safety manager James and  
13 called everyone else.

14 That was the end of my conversation with  
15 him. Later on I tried to call him back and didn't get  
16 an answer.

17 MR. PAGE: Riky Page. So to clarify Mr.  
18 Perez's statement, he stated that the gates were up and  
19 he was at the location?

20 MR. KHAN: No, he said they were going back  
21 up. I didn't understand what that meant. That they  
22 were going back up. To me that means that they were  
23 down and they started going back up.

24 So I said, what do you mean they were going  
25 back up, were they down? And then the last time I

1 asked him said, no, they were down when the train went  
2 through.

3 MR. PAGE: Riky Page. So Mr. Perez stated  
4 that the gates were not down when the train came  
5 through the crossing?

6 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

7 MR. PAGE: After this statement, after his  
8 statement, you also mentioned that he stated that he  
9 was at the crossing.

10 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

11 MR. PAGE: Did he verify that he was at the  
12 crossing at the time of the accident?

13 MR. KHAN: That's correct, he did. I asked  
14 him if he was there. Because I wanted to know how did  
15 he know before I was notified that we hit a train. And  
16 that's why I asked the question.

17 MR. PAGE: After you received the  
18 information, what did you instruct Mr. Perez to do?

19 MR. KHAN: To stay at the location until I  
20 notified the proper personnel's.

21 MR. PAGE: Do you supervise Mr. Perez?

22 MR. KHAN: I do.

23 MR. PAGE: Are you aware of his training,  
24 his position?

25 MR. KHAN: No.

1 MR. PAGE: Do you know what his instructions  
2 were to perform on that day?

3 MR. KHAN: No.

4 MR. PAGE: And to state again, your title  
5 and exactly what you do for VTMI.

6 MR. KHAN: I'm a signal communications  
7 manager. I handle calls to maintainers, make sure that  
8 sometimes get out to the calls, troubleshoot over the  
9 phone and payroll, every other thing involved in the  
10 position.

11 MR. PAGE: On the day of the accident, what  
12 did you do after you received the call from Mr. Perez?

13 MR. KHAN: I notified John Marquette, I  
14 notified James Buckley of the incident that went on.

15 MR. PAGE: And what is the procedure after  
16 something like this occurs?

17 MR. KHAN: Well, to notify the proper  
18 authority. I mean my superiors, to get out there to do  
19 an annual inspection at the location to see what  
20 exactly went on.

21 MR. PAGE: Did you instruct anyone else to  
22 go to the crossing to insist with the inspection?

23 MR. KHAN: Just the manager, Dave Major.

24 MR. PAGE: You called Mr. Major?

25 MR. KHAN: I let him know that someone had



1 the territories split, so the north end is his and the  
2 south end is mine. Even though I was handling the  
3 calls, he's --

4 MR. PAGE: Did you go to the location that  
5 day?

6 MR. KHAN: No, sir.

7 MR. PAGE: Thank you, sir, that's all the  
8 questions I have. I'll referring questioning to Mr.  
9 Emeaba.

10 MR. EMEABA: This is Kalu Kelly Emeaba. Mr.  
11 Khan, I just have some further questions and additional  
12 questions.

13 MR. KHAN: Yes.

14 MR. EMEABA: Please can you let us, what is  
15 your relationship with Mr. John Marquette?

16 MR. KHAN: He's my manager. He's a senior  
17 manager.

18 MR. EMEABA: So he's your manager?

19 MR. KHAN: Yes.

20 MR. EMEABA: Okay. And Mr. Khan, I mean Mr.  
21 Perez is under you?

22 MR. KHAN: Yes, sir.

23 MR. EMEABA: Okay. So can we put it this  
24 way that Mr. Perez reports to you?

25 MR. KHAN: Yes.

1 MR. EMEABA: And you report to --

2 MR. KHAN: Marquette.

3 MR. EMEABA: -- Marquette. Okay. You also  
4 mentioned Mr. James Buckley.

5 MR. KHAN: Yes.

6 MR. EMEABA: Who is Mr. James Buckley?

7 MR. KHAN: He's our safety manager.

8 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Why did you report to  
9 him?

10 MR. KHAN: I don't report to him. I  
11 notified him that there's been an incident.

12 MR. EMEABA: Okay. You mentioned there  
13 isn't a (indiscernible) from Mr. Page. You do not know  
14 the trainings that Mr. Perez has received?

15 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

16 MR. EMEABA: Who can, who knows about his  
17 trainings?

18 MR. KHAN: CSX.

19 MR. EMEABA: So doesn't any of the  
20 supervisors know his trainings?

21 MR. KHAN: No. They're Union, so they came  
22 already qualified for the positions. Which we have no  
23 control over.

24 MR. EMEABA: You mean VTMI has no control  
25 over --



1 MR. KHAN: Not that I'm aware of.

2 MR. EMEABA: So you just employee people  
3 because you are told they are qualified?

4 MR. KHAN: We didn't employee them. We had  
5 to take them as part of the contract.

6 MR. EMEABA: So is Mr. Perez a direct  
7 employee of VTMI or not?

8 MR. KHAN: Yes. Yes he is.

9 MR. EMEABA: So how do you accept, employee  
10 him?

11 MR. KHAN: We had no choice.

12 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Are they work, that are  
13 interviewed or could perform that would make you doubt  
14 he has qualification?

15 MR. KHAN: I'm sorry, can you repeat that?

16 MR. EMEABA: Are they work, an individual  
17 will perform, that make you doubt the individual's  
18 qualification?

19 MR. KHAN: According to the union agreement,  
20 we have to accept them as qualified employees for that  
21 position.

22 MR. EMEABA: So are they, process of  
23 verifying the individual qualification?

24 MR. KHAN: We're not allowed to.

25 MR. EMEABA: So if the qualifications of an

1 individual, the training they receive, is that a  
2 permanent one or the one they go through --

3 MR. KHAN: It's permanent.

4 MR. EMEABA: Permanent qualification for  
5 life?

6 MR. KHAN: I guess so. Yes.

7 MR. EMEABA: So there is no -- okay. Why  
8 I'm asking, I know that in some industry there could be  
9 a three-year qualification, four-year qualification,  
10 after which they go through requalifications. Can you  
11 elaborate more, that there is no requalification for --

12 MR. KHAN: No. Because of their union  
13 agreement, they're considered qualified for the  
14 position. And there is no testing that we can do to  
15 qualify them, if they are already considered qualified.

16 MR. EMEABA: So VTMI do not train the  
17 employees?

18 MR. KHAN: We train new employees that we  
19 hire. The employees that came down from CSX, as part  
20 of their union agreement, they're already considered  
21 qualified.

22 MR. EMEABA: Okay, so --

23 MR. KHAN: And we are not allowed to --

24 MR. EMEABA: -- Mr. Perez is one of the  
25 people from CSX?

1 MR. KHAN: Yes, sir.

2 MR. EMEABA: Okay. So when would you get an  
3 employee that you would train?

4 MR. KHAN: When we hire someone.

5 MR. EMEABA: Okay. And beside the training  
6 of Mr. Perez, which you say you do not know, and VTMI  
7 never wish to know the individual training and there is  
8 no way to determine how that person was trained,  
9 correct?

10 MR. KHAN: Well, I didn't say we didn't  
11 question them. We weren't allowed to question them.

12 MR. EMEABA: You are not allowed?

13 MR. KHAN: We tried to. Yes.

14 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Beside the training,  
15 does Mr. Perez work for you directly, under you?

16 MR. KHAN: Yes.

17 MR. EMEABA: Who, on a daily basis, how is  
18 he assigned his routine to work?

19 MR. KHAN: The way the FRA inspection works,  
20 is it's on a, it's every month. And we have we monthly  
21 inspections, quarterly, annual, two-year, four-year.  
22 And it's due on that date every month or whenever it  
23 is. So they're not instructed, as part of their job  
24 description, to perform those inspections.

25 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Who sets up those job?



1 MR. KHAN: They, I mean, what I will do is  
2 if the inspection is not done, as a manager, then I  
3 would notify them and say, well, why isn't this done in  
4 the appropriate time. I don't set it up prior. They  
5 automatically go and do their inspection based on the  
6 time it's due.

7 MR. EMEABA: No, I heard you. But my  
8 question is this, who sets up those activities for them  
9 to follow?

10 MR. KHAN: They do.

11 MR. EMEABA: They assign themselves the jobs  
12 they do?

13 MR. KHAN: Yes.

14 MR. EMEABA: Let me ask you this question.  
15 Can you restate to me your own current, Mr. Khan, your  
16 own current position, your own educate and training  
17 that you have?

18 MR. KHAN: I have a little over ten years of  
19 experience between here and FEC as a signal maintainer.  
20 I have two years as a signal inspector. And now a year  
21 and a half as a signal manager.

22 MR. EMEABA: That's about ten years all  
23 together?

24 MR. KHAN: Ten and a half.

25 MR. EMEABA: Ten and a half.

1 MR. KHAN: Yes.

2 MR. EMEABA: Okay. And Mr. Perez reports to  
3 you directly?

4 MR. KHAN: Yes.

5 MR. EMEABA: And on each, on daily basis,  
6 you do not know what he is doing?

7 MR. KHAN: No.

8 MR. EMEABA: Okay. That will be my question  
9 at this time. I'll pass it to another person.

10 MR. KHAN: Okay.

11 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Officer James Ingrassia.  
12 Just to clarified, you're saying Mr. Perez was trained  
13 by CSX and when the two companies merged --

14 MR. KHAN: It did not --

15 OFFICER INGRASSIA: -- he worked --

16 MR. KHAN: They didn't merge.

17 OFFICER INGRASSIA: They didn't merge?

18 MR. KHAN: Yes.

19 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Or when VTMI came in a  
20 noted or he came over to VTMI --

21 MR. KHAN: Yes.

22 OFFICER INGRASSIA: -- basically you just  
23 accepted his past training as qualified?

24 MR. KHAN: Yes, we had --

25 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Okay.

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1 MR. KHAN: Yes, we had to.

2 OFFICER INGRASSIA: All right. The only  
3 other question I have is, did Mr. Perez, at any time or  
4 did you ask at any time, why the gates did not come  
5 down?

6 MR. KHAN: No.

7 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Okay. That's all I  
8 have.

9 MR. HUNTER: Russell Hunter. The only thing  
10 I want to clarify is, when you mentioned that Mr. Perez  
11 does not report to you on a daily basis, can you kind  
12 of explain the way the maintenance system works, the  
13 way, what he's going to look at on a daily basis that's  
14 going to dictate where he needs to go and what he needs  
15 to do so we can clarify how he does, he accomplishes  
16 his job on a normal basis?

17 MR. KHAN: Yes. They have a spreadsheet  
18 with all the locations on it and the dates all the  
19 inspections are done. And they plan their month.

20 Basically they plan their whole month, when  
21 they're going to do each inspection for that month.  
22 Because they already know from the previous month, when  
23 everything was done. It has to be done within a  
24 certain time. So they would plan it.

25 Now I would know, if they didn't get it



1 done, I will know they didn't get it done on time and I  
2 will notify them, like well, this inspection needs to  
3 be done. I normally know after the inspections are  
4 done because I get the paperwork for the inspection.

5 OFFICER INGRASSIA: And how would you know  
6 if it hadn't been done? Is there a computer program or  
7 is there the paperwork, your schedule?

8 MR. KHAN: Yes, based on the schedule. I  
9 mean I do talk to them on a daily basis, whether they  
10 are done or not.

11 But I usually know -- but we don't have a  
12 system set up where they're going to call me every  
13 single time they go to a particular inspection. They  
14 don't call me and say, well, I'm doing this. It's  
15 basically around.

16 And if they can't get a certain inspection  
17 done a certain time, they let me know, for the most  
18 part that, I wasn't able to get this done today, but  
19 I'll get it done first thing tomorrow.

20 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Okay. So on a daily  
21 basis then, you wouldn't normally talk to him on a  
22 daily basis because he has, and I don't mean to put  
23 words in your mouth, but what I'm trying to make sure,  
24 he has a schedule that basically is telling him, I have  
25 these tests due this week or today or whatever so, he's

1 not calling you on a daily basis but what he's doing is  
2 he's taking that schedule and going, I need to go here,  
3 here and here and do all these tests, is --

4 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

5 OFFICER INGRASSIA: -- that --

6 MR. KHAN: That's correct. Yes.

7 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Okay.

8 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

9 OFFICER INGRASSIA: And you're not going to  
10 really interfere with that unless either he informs you  
11 that a test couldn't be completed or if the end of the  
12 week comes and you realize the tests were not done,  
13 that he should have been --

14 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

15 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Okay.

16 MR. KHAN: And they'll do it sometimes. I  
17 mean I get with the guys sometimes if they're going to  
18 go on vacation or they're going, the hours of services,  
19 I'll have another maintainer do the inspections.

20 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Okay.

21 MR. KHAN: So it's not late.

22 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Okay. That's all I  
23 wanted to clarify.

24 MR. KHAN: Yes.

25 OFFICER INGRASSIA: I'm done.

1 MR. RUSNAK: Richard Rusnak, FRA. Just a  
2 couple of questions. So when Mr. Perez comes to work,  
3 he does not report at a location where you would see  
4 him with the other people? In other words, he just  
5 goes from his home, to the location, does his job.

6 MR. KHAN: Correct.

7 MR. RUSNAK: And then when he gets finished  
8 he goes back home, whatever?

9 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

10 MR. RUSNAK: Okay. A little bit on the CSX  
11 qualifications. Now, if I understood you right, that  
12 when your company came onboard, the unions had an  
13 agreement that prior CSX employees would be hired,  
14 okay. And it's the assumption that they were working  
15 there and that they are trained and qualified.

16 Is there any documentation from CSX that was  
17 giving to VTMI stating that these people are qualified?  
18 Like any kind of paperwork, any kind of training  
19 records?

20 Why I say that is because like engineer's  
21 certification and conductor's certification, we have  
22 the same situation. But the only difference is, is  
23 that we get their training records that shows us that  
24 they are currently qualified and that there's no  
25 violations or anything else.



1 MR. KHAN: It's in the union agreement.

2 MR. RUSNAK: But no one on VTMI has any kind  
3 of paperwork, not even human resources, saying that  
4 this guy did work for CSX and he is qualified?

5 MR. KHAN: I --

6 MR. RUSNAK: And you are aware of.

7 MR. KHAN: I'm not aware of. I know that in  
8 the agreement that it does say that they are.

9 MR. RUSNAK: Okay, thank you.

10 MR. BLAZE: Niles Blaze. And then to  
11 clarify again, would you say that the signal inspectors  
12 make their own daily schedule?

13 MR. KHAN: Yes.

14 MR. BLAZE: So did you know that Mr. Perez  
15 was there doing relays that day?

16 MR. KHAN: No.

17 MR. BLAZE: Is that unusual that you  
18 wouldn't know what the inspector is doing on a daily  
19 basis?

20 MR. KHAN: No.

21 MR. BLAZE: Do you know how long Mr. Perez  
22 has worked for the railroad?

23 MR. KHAN: Fifteen years I believe. Give or  
24 take.

25 MR. BLAZE: Do you know how long he has been

1 a signal inspector?

2 MR. KHAN: I don't know how long he has been  
3 a signal inspector. I do know that he came over, he  
4 was a signal inspector on CSX, and he came over here as  
5 a signal inspector.

6 MR. BLAZE: Do you know of any certification  
7 or of qualifying documentation that would signify if  
8 someone is a signal inspector?

9 MR. KHAN: No.

10 MR. BLAZE: Did they have anything like that  
11 over on your previous employer, at FEC?

12 MR. KHAN: Yes.

13 MR. BLAZE: You did?

14 MR. KHAN: Yes, we had to do an interview to  
15 become a signal inspector.

16 MR. BLAZE: An interview.

17 MR. KHAN: Yes.

18 MR. BLAZE: So was there any kind of a  
19 certification, such as a certified to operate a train  
20 as a engineer certification? Is there a --

21 MR. KHAN: Not a piece of paper, no.

22 MR. BLAZE: Let me clear this up now. Have  
23 you ever been with Perez while he was, Mr. Perez, while  
24 he was doing any of his inspection duties?

25 MR. KHAN: Not a signal inspector. I've

1 worked with him with other stuff, besides that.

2 MR. BLAZE: Have you ever taken exception to  
3 his work doing this other work?

4 MR. KHAN: No. He's very careful normally.

5 MR. BLAZE: I'm sorry?

6 MR. KHAN: He's usually very careful when  
7 he's working.

8 MR. BLAZE: But you've never been with him  
9 while he is doing signal inspecting work? Such as, in  
10 this case, testing relays.

11 MR. KHAN: No.

12 MR. BLAZE: Do you feel that if any of your  
13 employees, whether or not they came from CSX or not, if  
14 you witness them not able to do their duties as  
15 defined, is there a process of possibly disqualifying  
16 them?

17 MR. KHAN: I would, yes, I would bring it  
18 up. Absolutely.

19 MR. BLAZE: So it is possible that Mr. Perez  
20 could be disqualified if he's seeing not doing his  
21 duties as required?

22 MR. KHAN: I mean I can imagine if he is not  
23 doing his job the way he's supposed to do it proper,  
24 and you keep notifying it and bringing it up,  
25 absolutely. There's got to be repercussions.



1 MR. BLAZE: So in fact then, the union  
2 agreement doesn't require you to take this person on  
3 untested. If he can't do his job, he would be  
4 disqualified.

5 MR. KHAN: Yes. I mean if you go through,  
6 absolutely.

7 MR. BLAZE: Okay. Yes, no further  
8 questions.

9 MR. PAGE: Riky Page. You said that Mr.  
10 Perez, or you stated that Mr. Perez works for you, is  
11 that correct?

12 MR. KHAN: Yes.

13 MR. PAGE: Okay. Is Mr. Perez -- I'm going  
14 to rephrase my question. Is there a set of standards  
15 and instructions on testing relays for VTMI?

16 MR. KHAN: Yes.

17 MR. PAGE: And in that set of standards and  
18 instructions, what is specifically guarantees the  
19 safety of the public while testing relays?

20 MR. KHAN: Put the proper protection at the  
21 location.

22 MR. PAGE: What is the proper protection?

23 MR. KHAN: The EC1.

24 MR. PAGE: What is an EC1?

25 MR. KHAN: Actually, at a crossing, it would

1 be a stop and flag or activation failure.

2 MR. PAGE: Explain what stop and flag is.

3 MR. KHAN: It's, you notify --

4 MR. PAGE: Please.

5 MR. KHAN: -- dispatcher that the crossing  
6 is not going to activate. The crossing will be out of  
7 service. Any train that comes to that crossing will  
8 have to stop, get out and flag the crossing.

9 MR. PAGE: So if Mr. Perez or another signal  
10 maintainer is testing relays, he is required by VTMI  
11 rules and instructions, to acquire an EC1 that protects  
12 the public from being hit by a train, is that correct?

13 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

14 MR. PAGE: And an EC1 is acquired through  
15 the dispatcher, is that correct?

16 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

17 MR. PAGE: And an EC1 is a stop and flag  
18 order instructing all trains --

19 MR. KHAN: No, I'm sorry, that's not an EC1.

20 MR. PAGE: I'm sorry, resetting.

21 MR. KHAN: Yes. Activation failure --

22 MR. PAGE: Okay. Is what?

23 MR. KHAN: -- is what you use to protect the  
24 crossing.

25 MR. PAGE: All right. What is an activation

1 failure?

2 MR. KHAN: An activation failure is when you  
3 contact the dispatcher letting them know that the  
4 crossing will not operate.

5 MR. PAGE: Okay. So to restate the  
6 procedure, a signal maintainer testing relays, at a  
7 crossing, would have to put an activation failure,  
8 acquired through the dispatcher, to protect the public,  
9 is that correct?

10 MR. KHAN: That's correct.

11 MR. PAGE: And what is an activation  
12 failure?

13 MR. KHAN: Activation failure is something  
14 you put on the crossing, you let know dispatcher know  
15 that the crossing will not activate. The gates will  
16 not go down. And any train that comes to that crossing  
17 will have to stop and flag the crossing.

18 MR. PAGE: To your knowledge, was an  
19 activation failure notice placed on that crossing on  
20 July the 6th, 2016?

21 MR. KHAN: No, sir.

22 MR. PAGE: Thank you, that's all the  
23 questions that I have. Are there any other questions?

24 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Yes. James Ingrassia,  
25 West Palm PD. To your knowledge, in regards to the



1 activation failures, was any call made to dispatch?

2 That you are aware of.

3 MR. KHAN: To my knowledge, no.

4 OFFICER INGRASSIA: No? Okay. In regards  
5 to the crossing, are you familiar with the components  
6 inside the boxes? Or the sheds at the crossings.

7 MR. KHAN: Yes.

8 OFFICER INGRASSIA: All right. Are you  
9 aware of any recording device for the activations and  
10 the deactivations of the crossings that are inside that  
11 box?

12 MR. KHAN: Yes.

13 OFFICER INGRASSIA: Are you aware if the one  
14 at this box was functional or not, prior to or during  
15 the incident?

16 MR. KHAN: As far as I know, it was.

17 OFFICER INGRASSIA: It was activational.

18 All right, those are all my questions.

19 MR. EMEABA: Yes, this is Kalu Kelly Emeaba.

20 Mr. Khan, I have a few further questions with you.

21 Please, could you tell me, how you know Mr.  
22 Perez is very careful while working if you never  
23 directly supervised him at work?

24 MR. KHAN: I did. Not for those particular  
25 tests, but I did for other tests.

1 MR. EMEABA: Which other?

2 MR. KHAN: Replacing a GCP at the location,  
3 for example.

4 MR. EMEABA: Do you know the location? Can  
5 you remember?

6 MR. KHAN: No, I don't recall. He was very  
7 careful in getting the proper protection to work at the  
8 location.

9 MR. EMEABA: Okay. And on the 25th Street,  
10 which is July 6th, you say he's very good in getting  
11 proper protection. Is there a reason why there were  
12 not protection at this one?

13 MR. KHAN: I don't know.

14 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Earlier on we talked  
15 about the trainings and the certifications, which you  
16 said you don't have a proof of it, other than what you  
17 were told by the union, that the individual, Mr. Perez,  
18 is qualified to perform the work he were doing.

19 MR. KHAN: Yes.

20 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Who or where can we get  
21 this union record or certification? If they have  
22 anyone, who should we arrive personal? Which segment  
23 of your division can we get that document?

24 MR. KHAN: We should have a copy I guess.

25 MR. EMEABA: I don't have it here, that's

1 why I'm asking, where should we get it.

2 MR. KHAN: The union agreement?

3 MR. EMEABA: Yes, that tell you that Mr.  
4 Perez is qualified so that we can see where you got  
5 your assurance that he's qualified to do what he were  
6 doing.

7 MR. KHAN: From the union agreement.

8 MR. EMEABA: Yes, where do we get the union  
9 agreement?

10 MR. KHAN: The Union.

11 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Can you get us a copy of  
12 it?

13 MR. KHAN: Can we get a copy of that from --

14 MR. BLAZE: I can't answer the question for  
15 you, it's to you.

16 MR. KHAN: I can try to get a copy of the  
17 union agreement.

18 MR. EMEABA: Yes, we need a copy of the  
19 union agreement, upon which you based to hire him and  
20 that guarantees that he is qualified to do what he was  
21 doing. So we need that.

22 And usually when we are done you can make  
23 connections and let us have a copy of it. I think that  
24 will be it at this time.

25 MR. BLAZE: I might, can help. Niles Blaze.



1 Does this union agreement state that Mr. Perez is  
2 qualified for this job?

3 MR. KHAN: I believe that it does. I'm not  
4 100 percent sure.

5 MR. BLAZE: Have you read the union  
6 agreement?

7 MR. KHAN: Not fully.

8 MR. BLAZE: Okay. So it would be probably  
9 safe to say you can't say what the union agreement says  
10 then?

11 MR. KHAN: No.

12 MR. BLAZE: Does the union agreement in  
13 which you speak of -- I withdraw the question. No  
14 other questions.

15 MR. EMEABA: One last question. This is  
16 Kalu Kelly Emeaba. How long has Mr. Perez performed  
17 the relay tests, that you know? How many times has he  
18 performed relay tests, that you know?

19 MR. KHAN: How many times?

20 MR. EMEABA: Yes.

21 MR. KHAN: I don't know off the top of my  
22 head.

23 MR. EMEABA: Okay. How long has he been  
24 with the company?

25 MR. KHAN: A year and a half.

1 MR. EMEABA: Okay. So since he joined, he  
2 moved over from CSX, correct?

3 MR. KHAN: Yes.

4 MR. EMEABA: He's been with you for a year  
5 and a half?

6 MR. KHAN: Yes.

7 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Other than this crossing  
8 signal house or bungalow, off of 25th Street, are there  
9 other signal houses he actually go for the tests?

10 MR. KHAN: Yes.

11 MR. EMEABA: Do you know which of them --

12 MR. KHAN: Not off the top of my head, no.

13 MR. EMEABA: Okay. Are you able to get us  
14 documentation, of his previous work that he had done?

15 MR. KHAN: Yes.

16 MR. EMEABA: Okay. We need a document of  
17 the previous tests he has performed and which  
18 locations.

19 MR. KHAN: Okay.

20 MR. EMEABA: Thank you. So that makes it  
21 two requests from you. Thank you. That's it.

22 MR. PAGE: Okay, Ricky Page. I got one or  
23 two more questions. Do signal inspectors or do  
24 maintainers test relays also or just signal inspectors?

25 MR. KHAN: No, just signal inspectors.

1 MR. PAGE: How many signal inspectors do you  
2 supervise?

3 MR. KHAN: I supervise one. Two of them.  
4 We have a total of two. I have the south and Mr. Major  
5 has the north. He's usually over Perez. I'm over  
6 Soto.

7 MR. PAGE: The VTMI furnishes instructions  
8 on how to protect the public and integrity of the  
9 signal systems and the crossing signal systems while  
10 testing?

11 MR. KHAN: Yes.

12 MR. PAGE: I have no further questions.

13 MR. EMEABA: Kalu Kelly Emeaba. Just to  
14 verify please. Is Mr. Perez a signal inspector or a  
15 signal maintainer?

16 MR. KHAN: Signal inspector.

17 MR. EMEABA: Okay, thank you.

18 MR. PAGE: At this time we will conclude the  
19 interview of Mr. Khan.

20 MR. KHAN: Thank you.

21 MR. PAGE: Thank you, sir.

22 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went  
23 off the break for a short recess.)

24 MR. PAGE: This is Riky Page, IIC  
25 Investigator in Charge of the West Palm Beach train and



1 vehicle collision that occurred on July 6th, 2016.

2 We're going back on record to let Mr. Khan change or  
3 restate his testimony. It is 11:36 a.m. Mr. Khan?

4 MR. KHAN: My name is Imtineaz Khan. What I  
5 said about the union agreement, I'm not 100 percent  
6 sure that it's in here because I haven't read the whole  
7 agreement.

8 MR. PAGE: Okay. Is there anything else  
9 you'd like to add, Mr. Khan?

10 MR. KHAN: No, that's it.

11 MR. PAGE: At this time the interview with  
12 Mr. Khan will end. Thank you, sir.

13 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went  
14 off the record at 11:36 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

MATTER: Amtrak Accident in  
West Palm Beach, FL  
July 6, 2016, Accident No. DCA16FR009  
Interview of Imtineaz Khan

DATE:

I hereby certify that the attached transcription of page 1 to 31 inclusive are to the best of my professional ability a true, accurate, and complete record of the above referenced proceedings as contained on the provided audio recording; further that I am neither counsel for, nor related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this action in which this proceeding has taken place; and further that I am not financially nor otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

  
**NEAL R. GROSS**  
  
  
 