

Human Performance Factual Report Attachment

Transcript of Bus Driver Interview

Williamsburg, VA

HWY23MH004

(27 pages)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Investigation of:

FATAL TWO-VEHICLE CRASH IN YORK * COUNTY NEAR NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA * Accident No.: HWY23MH004 ON DECEMBER 19, 2022

Interview of: ANTONIO WIGGINS, Driver Futrells Party Adventure

Williamsburg, Virginia

Thursday, August 10, 2023

APPEARANCES:

DENNIS COLLINS, Investigator National Transportation Safety Board

SHAWN CURRIE, Investigator National Transportation Safety Board

ANGELA MACFARLANE, Attorney Harman, Claytor, Corrigan and Wellman, P.C.

I N D E X

<u>ITEM</u>	PAGE
Interview of Antonio Wiggins:	
By Mr. Currie	6
By Mr. Collins	18
By Mr. Currie	20

INTERVIEW

(1:35 p.m.)

MR. COLLINS: We are Federal investigators for a safety agency. And what that means is we don't make any rules. We don't assess any fines. We don't address (indiscernible), we don't penalize people. We don't do anything. The only thing we generate is we generate a report that has recommendations that can go to -- they go to other agencies, other people, manufacturers that said, hey, there was a problem with blank in this incident. Why don't you try fixing it. And sometimes we'll make some general suggestions, but, but generally we leave those up to the, the industry. So we could ask for a redesign of the vehicle, like the, the coach. We could ask VDOT to change the roads, so forth and so on. And by virtue of just being where you were at the time you were, you have information we can't get any other way, so we appreciate you talking to us because that, that -- the more information we have, the better our solutions are when we, when we come out and say, hey, here's what we think should change. with that, I'm Denis, Dennis Collins. The better looking guy with less of a beard is Shawn Currie. And we both work for the same agency. And I think with that, Shawn, would you like to start? Because I know you have some questions and then I can follow up.

MR. CURRIE: Sure.

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MR. CURRIE: Yeah. A little housekeeping stuff first. And, and is it okay if I -- oh, probably help if I unmuted her.

MR. COLLINS: You're muted.

MR. CURRIE: It'll probably help if I unmuted myself. The joys of video. So is it okay if we call you Antonio?

MR. WIGGINS: Yeah.

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MR. CURRIE: All right. So -- and for both you and your attorney, are you okay with me recording this so I can actually listen to what you're saying? And we'll do at the -- we'll send it out for transcription and we'll provide you with a copy of it.

MR. WIGGINS: Sure.

MR. CURRIE: You okay with that, Attorney:

MS. MACFARLANE: Yes.

MR. CURRIE: Okay. So in order to do that, I got to do a little spiel so the transcriptionist knows who we are and what we're talking about. So if everybody's ready, I will start. So it's 1:35 on August the 10th, 2023. And my name is Shawn, S-h-a-w-n, Currie, C-u-r-r-i-e, and I'm an investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board. And we're here interviewing Antonio, Antonio Wiggins, correct?

MR. WIGGINS: Yes.

MR. CURRIE: Okay. Can you say and spell your name for me?

MR. WIGGINS: Antonio Wiggins, A-n-t-o-n-i-o, W-i-g-g-i-n-s.

MR. CURRIE: And also with me is Dennis, D-e-n-n-i-s, Collins, C-o-l-l-i-n-s. And Mr. Wiggins Attorney, if you could say and spell your name for us please?

MS. MACFARLANE: Absolutely. Angela MacFarlane with the firm

- of Harmen, Claytor, Corrigan and Wellman. My last name is -first name A-n-g-e-l-a, last name M-a-c-, F as in Frank, a-r-l-an-e.
 - MR. CURRIE: Excellent. And we're here to talk about a crash that happened in Williamsburg, Virginia, oh, quite a while ago now, in which you were a driver, Mr. Wiggins, or Antonio.

INTERVIEW OF ANTONIO WIGGINS

BY MR. CURRIE:

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- 9 Q. How long have you been working for Futrells at the time of the crash?
- A. At the time of the crash I had been working for, for about I would say -- all together, like totally, all together, a couple
- years. I wouldn't -- I'm, I'm not sure, like, exactly, but I know a good while.
- Q. Okay. Okay. Well, you were a full time driver or you fill in or how did that work?
- 17 A. Part time.
- Q. Part time. And just is this the only vehicle you drove for them or did you drive other vehicles for them or what?
- 20 **| A.** Yeah.
- 21 Q. Which one is it?
- 22 A. Yeah, that's the only vehicle that I drove for them.
- 23 Q. Okay. About how many times do you think you've driven that
- 24 | bus?
- 25 A. About seven.

- Q. About seven. So seven over two years? So you didn't work for them all that much.
- A. No.

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- Q. Okay. I realize it's been a few months. Well, it's been quite a few months since the crash happened. Do you remember the circumstances about how it all went or --
- 7 | A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. Could you relay those for us? Could you tell us the 9 story?
- 10 | A. From the beginning or, like, when the crash happened?
- Q. From the beginning that, that this -- that you knew you were going to be working for them that night. How that all worked out.
 - A. All right. So I, I had known that I would be working for them at least two weeks prior because, like, she had relayed a message for me to ask for me to drive the bus. And I had responded and said, yes, I will drive the bus for this night for, you know, the venue that we were going to. So we -- I picked up the bus at the bus station, which was in Newport News. Picked it up. I took it from there, drove it to her house, which was in Norfolk. We met -- like, everybody met up to get on the bus at her house and then we left from there. We picked up another two people out at ODU and then we left from there and went up the street a little bit more, I believe. Like, off of Hampton Boulevard at Wawas down there. We stopped and filled, filled up the bus. Everybody got off, you know, grabbed a couple snacks and

then we went from there, hit the highway, traveling towards 1 2 Richmond. And after that, we got to the venue a little after 3 11:00 or 12:00, something like that. And then everybody went in. 4 They had their fun, partied, did what they did and they came back 5 on the bus. After that, we got back on the interstate, headed 6 back home. And as we were heading home, it's a semitruck 7 approaching me from behind. And I knew they was behind me because 8 I was, like -- I'm a very defensive driver, so I pay attention to 9 where I'm driving. I see him approaching me at, like, high rates 10 And he gets closer and closer. I check the mirrors

again and he was, like, so close that I, like, couldn't see his

headlights anymore. After that, I knew we were about to be hit

- 14 Q. Okay. So about what time did you pick up the bus?
- 15 | A. I'm not exactly sure what time I grabbed the bus.
- Q. You want to ballpark it for me? I mean, you can be, be within an hour, I'd be happy.
- 18 | A. 6:00 I would say.

and then he hit me.

- Q. Okay. And do you do any kind of inspection on the bus when you pick it up? Do you walk around, make sure it doesn't have any
- 21 | flat tires?

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- 22 A. Yeah.
- 23 Q. Or what do you do?
- 24 A. Yeah, before we left, yeah, we did. We cleaned up the bus.
- 25 We made sure all the electrical was working, all the music was

- working, everything was, you know, prepped to go for the road, so 1 2 yeah.
- 3 Okay. Was it just inside looking at stuff or did you -- do 4 you do, like, the --
- 5 Oh. Α.
- 6 What would be oh?
- 7 We do inside and outside because she has, like, a checklist 8 that we go over, you know, to make sure -- that's how we knew, 9 like, it wasn't no gas in there, the last person who put gas in
- there.

- 11 Okay. Q.
- 12 Stuff like that, so.
- 13 And was there anything wrong with the bus when you Okay.
- 14 checked it out?
- 15 Only thing that was wrong was the, was the music. 16 couldn't get the music to hook up. That was it.
- 17 Q. Okay. Did --
- 18 But that's, that's more, like, a Bluetooth issue with phones,
- 19 so.
- 2.0 Okay. So you, you picked it up. You said we did an
- 21 inspection on the bus. Was it you and Towanda or Tuto or what do
- 22 you call her?
- 23 Me -- it was me, Towanda and her kids because, like, we
- 24 cleaned it inside of the bus because, like, you know, that last
- 25 party, that wasn't clean enough, the inside of the bus like that.

- 1 So we had to, like, pick up trash and stuff like that.
- 2 | Q. Okay. And then you drove to Towanda's in Newport News?
- 3 A. No, no.
- 4 Q. I mean, sorry.
- $5 \mid A$. I think I --
- 6 Q. Norfolk.
- 7 | A. I pick --
- 8 Q. Yeah.
- 9 A. I picked it up from Newport News and drove it to Norfolk.
- 10 Q. Okay. Any issues with it?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Steering or breaks or nothing?
- 13 | A. No.
- 14 Q. No. And then you said you went to ODU, is that Old Dominion?
- 15 | A. Yeah.
- 16 Q. All right.
- 17 A. Off of Hampton Boulevard. We picked up two kids. I believe
- 18 | it's -- I'm not sure what the cross intersection is, but it's off
- 19 of Hampton Boulevard. It's a gas station right across from the
- 20 convention center.
- 21 Q. Okay. And then after you picked everybody up, then you went
- 22 | to the Wawa and filled up. You -- did you drive up the interstate
- 23 | to Richmond?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Okay. Were there any issues with the bus?

A. No.

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- $2 \parallel Q$. Okay. How fast, how fast were you going?
- $3 \parallel A$. On the way there we were going about mid-50s.
- 4 | Q. Mid-50s?
- 5 A. Yeah.
- 6 \mathbb{Q} . Did it go any faster than that or --
- 7 | A. No.
- 8 Q. So what would you say the top speed of the bus was?
- 9 A. Well, I didn't, I didn't push it to the top speed, but where 10 we were going was about mid-50s.
- 11 Q. Okay. And how fast have you driven that bus before? Just --
- 12 A. Top speed on the bus is about 60 something miles per hour.
- 13 | Q. Okay. So you weren't having any problems with the, the gas
- 14 or anything? It was running fine?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And then you said you went to the venue. Do you remember where the venue was or what the name of the venue was?
- A. I'm not -- I do not remember the name of the venue, but I do
- 19 remember it's in Richmond. I do not remember the name of the
- 20 streets or anything. I just know it was in Richmond.
- 21 Q. Okay. Did, did you go into the venue for the show?
- 22 A. Yeah, I went in there for about ten, 15 minutes to see, like,
- 23 how it looked inside and stuff like that, see what they were
- 24 experiencing and how the fun was going and stuff like that.
- 25 Q. Yeah.

- A. So I just went in to check it out. That was it.
- $2 \parallel Q$. Okay. And then about what time do you think you guys left?
- $3 \parallel A$. We left at about 12:00 something. A little -- I know it was
- 4 | after 12:00 because we got there after 11:00, but they didn't stay
- 5 | for that long. And then we got back on the bus, we left about
- 6 | 12:00 something.
- 7 Q. Okay. And from the venue right to the highway and then back
- 8 | home?

- 9 A. Yeah, we were headed straight -- we, we were headed back to
- 10 Towanda's house because that's where everybody's cars was.
- 11 \mathbb{Q} . Okay. And about, about how fast were you going?
- 12 A. Same thing, mid-50s.
- 13 Q. Okay. I know you said you picked up the bus around 6:00 or
- 14 | 7:00. When did you start your day that day?
- 15 A. Like, when did I wake up?
- 16 Q. Yeah, that'd be a good idea.
- 17 A. I woke up at, like -- I'm, I'm not even sure what time I woke
- 18 | up because it's been so long.
- 19 Q. Okay. Do you work somewhere else?
- 20 | A. Now?
- 21 Q. No, then. Did you work somewhere else then?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 | Q. Where?
- 24 A. I worked at a Wendy's.
- 25 Q. At Wendy's?

A. Yes.

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- $2 \parallel Q$. And what do you work for a shift there?
- $3 \parallel A$. I work early morning shifts. I will work, like, come in and
- 4 open to, like, clean the grill and stuff like that for opening
- 5 shifts.
- 6 Q. Okay. What time's that start?
- $7 \parallel A$. Opening shift start at about 6:00 I believe, 6:00 a.m.
- 8 Q. Okay. And what -- how long do you usually work there, 6:00
- 9 to what?
- 10 A. About 6:00 to 4:00.
- 11 | Q. Okay. Okay.
- 12 A. 6:00 to 3:00.
- 13 Q. Okay. So nine, ten hour day?
- 14 A. Yeah, something like that.
- 15 \parallel Q. Okay. Do you know if you worked that day before -- the day
- 16 | that you were driving?
- 17 A. No, I did not work that day.
- 18 Q. Okay. So what time do you usually get up?
- 19 A. On the average day I get up about 10:00.
- 20 0. 10:00?
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 Q. All right. And so your driver's license, what do you have
- 23 | for a driver's license?
- 24 A. I have a regular driver's license.
- 25 Q. Okay. Had anybody ever told you that a bus needs a

- 1 | commercial license?
- 2 A. No.
- $3 \parallel Q$. No. When you were hired by Towanda, did you have to fill out
- 4 | an application or anything?
- 5 | A. No.
- 6 Q. No. Did you ever have to give her a copy of your license or
- 7 | anything like that?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. All right. How were you paid by her?
- 10 A. She would pay me, like, cash.
- 11 | Q. All right. What would, what would a trip like this usually
- 12 | get you for money?
- 13 A. We would discuss it, like, after the trip. Like, depending
- 14 on how far we drove, how much we spent, stuff like that. And then
- 15 | she would pay me cash, but, like, we had did a trip prior, but we
- 16 never went out, out of, like, the city --
- 17 | Q. Okay.
- 18 A. -- as per se. Like, hours and hours away. But we went to,
- 19 like, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, stuff like that and she would
- 20 pay me, like, probably, like, \$200 for a trip like that.
- 21 Q. Okay. Did you get paid for this trip?
- 22 A. Did I pay for it?
- 23 \mathbb{Q} . No, did you get paid for it?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. Okay. Did -- were you supposed to get paid for it?

- A. Yes.
- $2 \parallel Q$. Okay. But you said that usually happened after?
- $3 \mid A.$ Yes.
- 4 | Q. All right. Had she discussed compensation about this trip or
- 5 what -- was it just understood that you were going to get paid for
- 6 | it?

- 7 A. Prior, yes, we talked about pay.
- 8 Q. All right. And you -- how long of a trip is that up, up and
- 9 back?
- 10 A. About I would say, like, three hours there, probably three
- 11 hours back or two and a half. Somewhat like that.
- 12 Q. Okay. What would you expect to get paid for something like
- 13 | that?
- 14 A. About \$450.
- 15 \parallel Q. Okay. Did you ever figure out what was up with your driver's
- 16 | license? I --
- 17 A. At the time they told me that my driver's license was
- 18 | suspended.
- 19 Q. Did you get that squared away?
- 20 | A. Yes.
- 21 0. What was it about?
- 22 A. It's because I didn't have insurance on my car that I had
- 23 | bought, but that, that was my first car that I had, you know, ever
- 24 | bought in my life. So I'm -- I didn't know. Because my car had
- 25 broke down. My wheel bearing and stuff had fell off. So I just

- 1 | left it in the yard and I wasn't driving it. I was walking to
- 2 work every day. So the insurance had lapsed on the vehicle and
- 3 then I guess it turned into a suspension. But I had no idea
- 4 because it was my first car, so I didn't really know what to do.
- $5 \parallel Q$. Okay. So it was just an administrative suspension. It
- 6 wasn't like you did anything wrong, it's just you --
- 7 | A. Yeah.
- 8 Q. -- you didn't understand the insurance rules?
- 9 A. It was because my, it was because my insurance lapsed.
- 10 | That's all.
- 11 | Q. Okay. Did you get, get your license reinstated?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. All right. Good. When, when did you get that done?
- 14 A. I got it done -- I forgot, honestly. But I, I did get it
- 15 \parallel done. My girlfriend would know if I was able to go upstairs --
- 16 Q. Yeah, it's --
- 17 A. -- and ask her.
- 18 Q. No, it's good. So you weren't aware that your license was
- 19 suspended or you were? Did they send you something --
- 20 | A. No.
- 21 Q. -- in the mail or -- I don't know how Virginia does it.
- 22 | A. No.
- 23 Q. Everybody does it different.
- 24 A. I was not aware that my license was suspended.
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. Because like I said, it was my first vehicle, so I had no
- 2 | idea.
- $3 \parallel Q$. All right. How long have you had a driver's license?
- 4 A. I've had driver's license since I was 18.
- 5 Q. So how many years is that, bud?
- 6 A. Four years now.
- 7 Q. Four years? Have you ever driven anything like the party bus
- 8 other than for Towanda or --
- 9 A. Yes, I have driven something like a party bus. I've driven
- 10 trucks for Habitat for Humanity and I also drove trucks for Grand
- 11 | Furniture.
- 12 | Q. Okay.
- 13 A. That was more so box trucks.
- 14 Q. Okay. Like little U-Haul type trucks? That kind of size or
- 15 | are you talking --
- 16 A. No, it was, like, like, a 28 foot type U-Haul.
- 17 | Q. Okay.
- 18 A. Like a big one.
- 19 Q. Okay. But you've -- this is the only passenger carrying
- 20 vehicle that you've ever driven is for her?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. Have you ever driven it out of state for her? I know
- 23 you're real close --
- 24 | A. No.
- $25 \mid Q$. -- to the lines there, so.

A. No.

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- 2 \mathbb{Q} . No. Just -- this was, this was the biggest trip so far?
- 3 | Since --
- 4 | A. Yes.
- 5 Q. All right.
- 6 MR. CURRIE: Dennis, would you like to jump in? I'll take a 7 break. Thank you, Antonio.
- 8 BY MR. COLLINS:
- 9 Q. Yeah, thank you. And, and there aren't any right or wrong
- 10 answers here. Just what you can remember. And if you can't
- 11 remember, just tell us. So Shawn had asked -- and you said you
- 12 went into the venue for about ten to 15 minutes to check it out.
- 13 What'd you do after you went in the venue?
- 14 A. After I went there, I was just looking around and just told
- 15 | them I was, like -- I was just, like, talking to them, like,
- 16 telling them -- like, hyping them up. Like, yeah, it's your
- 17 | birthday type, you know, like hyping my friends up and stuff like
- 18 that. Just looking around, checking it out, seeing how it was in
- 19 there. Then I, I left back out and went back and got on the bus
- 20 because I am not no party person.
- 21 Q. So other than that few minutes you were inside hyping people
- 22 | up, you were, you were just hanging out at the bus? And then when
- 23 they were done, they came out, it's time to go home?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Okay. And let's see. Just some quick questions, general

- questions about you. In general, how is your health?
- 2 A. Normal.

- $3 \parallel Q$. Normal. Okay. Did you -- how did you feel the day of the --
- $4 \mid \mid$ that December 15th, going into the 16th when you were driving, how
- 5 did you feel?
- 6 A. Normal.
- $7 \parallel Q$. Okay. Do you regularly take any medications or anything?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Okay. Let's see. And do you have any -- are you being
- 10 | treated for any -- or, or back in December, let me back it up.
- 11 Back in December, were you being treated for any medical
- 12 conditions of any kind?
- 13 | A. No.
- 14 Q. Okay then. Let's see. Shawn I think hit most of the rest of
- 15 my questions, which, which is what happens. We independently come
- 16 up with things we want to ask if there's a lot of overlap. So
- 17 and, and in the trip back -- I think Shawn asked how the bus was
- 18 | and you said it was good going up. You were able to do mid-50
- 19 still coming back down to Norfolk?
- 20 | A. Yes.
- 21 Q. How was the, how was the bus handling? How did it feel?
- 22 A. Normal. Like, like a regular vehicle.
- 23 Q. Okay. And the seven times you've driven it, had you had any
- 24 problems with it in the past?
- 25 A. No.

MR. COLLINS: Okay. Shawn, I think that's my --

MR. CURRIE: Okay.

MR. COLLINS: You hit a good chunk of mine, so that's the rest of them.

MR. CURRIE: Well, I'd like to say I had a plan, but I didn't.

BY MR. CURRIE:

- Q. Antonio, just a couple more follow up questions about the trip back since obviously that's where everything bad happened.
- 10 Obviously we -- there's a video, right, from the inside of the
- 11 truck. I'm sure you and your attorney are aware of that by now.
- 12 | Yes, no?

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- 13 | A. No, I'm not.
- 14 Q. All right. So in the video, it appears that you're going
- 15 pretty slow. I would say -- I -- and I didn't do any math. It's
- 16 not, not my part of the investigation to do that. But probably I
- would guess conservatively less than 40 miles an hour. Does that
- 18 | sound right?
- 19 | A. No.
- Q. Okay. Were you alone up when you were driving or was there somebody up there with you?
- 22 A. Ms. Towanda was up there with me.
- 23 Q. Okay. Where at?
- A. She was sitting, like -- well, I can't explain it, but it
- 25 was, like, against the door.

- Q. Okay. So in that little stairwell, she was sitting in there?
- 2 A. Yeah.

- $3 \parallel Q$. All right.
- 4 A. Yeah, yeah.
- 5 Q. What was everybody else doing?
- $6 \parallel A$. A couple people were -- well, majority of them were asleep.
- 7 I believe there was only, like, two of them that were woke back 8 there.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. But everybody else was sleeping.
- 11 | Q. Okay. And but you already told Mr. Collins you weren't
- 12 | tired, you didn't feel sick. You were just kind of just bopping
- 13 along? It's kind of boring through there, so --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. I, I drove down there from the airport myself. It wasn't all
- 16 that exciting of a trip.
- 17 A. Yeah, it is pretty boring.
- 18 Q. Yeah. So would there be any reason you could think why you'd
- 19 be going slow?
- 20 A. I wasn't going slow. But if we were, it would be because of
- 21 wet conditions because I'm a cautious driver.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 A. So it, it was raining at the time.
- 24 Q. Okay. All right.
- MR. CURRIE: Ms. MacFarlane, do you have anything?

1 MS. MACFARLANE: No, thank you.

BY MR. CURRIE:

- Q. Okay. Anthony, is there anything that we should have asked
- 4 | you that we didn't?
- 5 A. It's Antonio.
- $6 \parallel Q$. Oh, Antonio.
- 7 A. Right.

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- 8 Q. Sorry. I was all excited that we're almost done.
- 9 MR. COLLINS: You're older than you look.
- 10 MR. WIGGINS: No, sir.
- 11 BY MR. CURRIE:
- 12 Q. Anything we forgot to ask you?
- 13 A. No, sir.
- 14 | Q. Anything you'd like to add? It's your one shot.
- 15 | A. No, sir.
- 16 Q. Oh, come on. I can see it in your eyes. What do you got?
- 17 | A. I have nothing.
- 18 Q. No. All right. I know one thing we didn't ask, we probably
- 19 should have, what injuries did you sustain from this crash?
- 20 A. I sustained a major hip injury. I sustain back injuries.
- 21 Here and there, every -- I'm not sure if it's due to the accident,
- 22 | but here and there I get, like, a huge cramp from this side of my
- 23 neck all the way down to my shoulder. And I did sustain a gash on
- 24 my leq.
- 25 Q. Okay. So how long were you in the hospital?

- 1 A. I was treated and sent home the next morning. Well, I guess
- 2 | not the next morning, but, like, 6:00 that morning.
- 3 | Q. Okay.
- 4 A. Something like that.
- 5 Q. And you doing all right now?
- $6 \parallel A$. Yes.
- $7 \parallel Q$. I mean, honestly if you have injuries and you have cramps and
- 8 stuff, that's for your, that's for your attorney to deal with
- 9 | later. But, I mean, you, you doing all right?
- 10 A. I mean, physically, yes. But mentally not so --
- 11 | Q. Yeah.
- 12 | A. -- doing okay.
- 13 Q. Yeah, it's tough. Like, I'm not going to lie. I've looked
- 14 | at a lot of these and you're, you're very lucky. So did you --
- 15 | when you got hit, what happened? Did you get -- you weren't one
- 16 of the ones ejected, so what happened?
- 17 | A. I, I felt as if I was ejected. Was I not?
- 18 0. I didn't think so. But --
- 19 A. I -- because when I, when I finally hit the ground, I
- 20 was in a ditch.
- 21 | Q. Okay.
- 22 A. I was, I was no longer on the bus.
- 23 Q. Okay. What -- I guess we probably should have asked this
- 24 one. Did you have your seatbelt on?
- 25 A. Oh, no.

- Q. Okay. Did the seatbelt work?
- 2 A. The seatbelt would plate, but it would, like, unbuckle at
- 3 times. So, I mean, it worked, but it works when it wants to work.
- $4 \parallel Q$. Not when it needs to, right. So --
- 5 A. I guess you could say that.
- 6 Q. All right. I just want to make sure I've covered all my
- 7 | bases because I waited this long. I don't want to, don't want to
- 8 | let the opportunity go away. So you did a walk around inspection
- 9 of the bus beforehand?
- 10 A. Yes.

- 11 | Q. And --
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. There were no issues. Other than, other than a wonky
- 14 seatbelt, that would probably be the only thing?
- 15 | A. Yes.
- 16 \parallel Q. Do you check the oil and that kind of stuff when you --
- 17 A. They do that at the, at the shop that it goes to.
- 18 \parallel Q. Okay. Do you know when it went to the shop last?
- 19 A. It, it stays at the shop. Like, after every trip we take it
- 20 | right back to the shop. Like I said, that's where I picked it up
- 21 | from.
- 22 Q. Oh, okay. Do you know the name of the shop?
- 23 A. No, I don't. I just know where it's at.
- 24 \mathbb{Q} . All right. And where is it at?
- 25 A. It's in Newport, it's in Newport News off of, like -- it's

near Aberdeen, I believe. I'm not familiar with that side of the
water because I don't live over there.

Q. Well, I live in Tennessee, so I know even less about it than

you, so. Okay. I think that is all the questions I have.

- 5 MR. CURRIE: Mr. Collins?
 - MR. COLLINS: I don't think I have any other either that we haven't already hit, so.
 - MR. CURRIE: Okay.
- 9 MR. COLLINS: I think we're good.
- 10 MR. CURRIE: Ms. Macfarlane?
- 11 MR. WIGGINS: I have a question.
- MR. CURRIE: Yeah, what's up?
- MR. COLLINS: Yeah, of course.
- MR. WIGGINS: Well, it, it probably pertain to me and my lawyer or attorney.
 - MS. MACFARLANE: I'll say maybe -- Antonio, maybe just ask me that question.
- MR. CURRIE: Well, how, how -- Angela, do you have any questions?
- 20 MS. MACFARLANE: I do not. Thank you both for your time.
- MR. CURRIE: All right. I'm going to, I'm going to stop the recording at 1:58.
- 23 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: FATAL TWO-VEHICLE CRASH IN YORK

COUNTY NEAR NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA

ON DECEMBER 19, 2022 Interview of John Smith

ACCIDENT NO.: HWY23MH004

PLACE: Williamsburg, Virginia

DATE: August 10, 2023

was held according to the record, and that this is the original, complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed to the best of my skill and ability.

Kelly Anne T. Vance

Transcriber