



Human Performance Attachment – ISP Interviews with Truck Drivers

Highland, IL

HWY23MH015

(7 pages)

**ILLINOIS STATE POLICE
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Case Number 23-39117800039		Case Title PARADISE, RAYMOND C.			Report Type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Location <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle	
Report Purpose INTERVIEW OF DAVID CHERNO				Report Date 07/17/2023		Activity Date 07/12/2023
Lead Number	Drug Buys	Arrest Warrants	Search Warrants	Overhear Admin		Overhear Warrant
Reporting Agent LOWERY, MICHAEL				D Number 6592		Zone/Office ISPZ6CL
Case Agent IRWIN, TRAVIS				Case Agent ID Number 6344		Case Agent Zone/Office ISPZ6CL
ALPR Used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	APLR Location					
NARRATIVE						

The purpose of this report is to document an interview conducted while investigating a four vehicle Type-A crash, with fatalities, that occurred on July 12, 2023.

The interview was conducted with:

DAVID SCOTT CHERNO
MW- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Amarillo, TX 79118
[REDACTED]

On July 12, 2023, CHERNO was identified as one of the drivers of a semi-truck that was struck by a Greyhound bus. Reporting Agent (R/A) Michael Lowery responded to I-70 westbound rest area, in Highland, to interview CHERNO. The interview took place in an unmarked Illinois State Police squad car. A video statement checklist was completed as CHERNO agreed to participate with a video recorded interview. The interview began at approximately 5:10 a.m., as CHERNO stated the following:

- CHERNO was sleeping in his 2023 Mack semi-truck as it was parked on the shoulder of the I-70 westbound rest area ramp in Highland, Illinois.
- CHERNO stated he woke up in the air, was bouncing around off everything, and was dazed.
- CHERNO put on his shoes and exited his vehicle. That's when he realized something hit him.
- A younger male walked up to CHERNO and asked if he could use his phone to call his mom. CHERNO stated the male appeared disoriented, was bleeding, and had cuts all over him. CHERNO stated the male was from Mississippi.
- CHERNO realized it was a Greyhound bus that struck the rear of his trailer.
- CHERNO observed people exiting the bus.
- CHERNO called 911 and walked back to the bus. He was on the phone when he started checking the status of the driver who was sitting up in the driver's seat.
- CHERNO stated the front windshield was broken out of the bus, so he just climbed up and asked the driver if he was ok.
- CHERNO believed the driver was dead because he wasn't responsive, and he was unable to detect a pulse.

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- CHERNO walked back to a window on the rear of the driver's side and started removing people from the bus.
- CHERNO could smell plastic burning. He went back up front to turn off the bus, which was still running, and to grab a fire extinguisher from his truck.
- CHERNO stated the young male from Mississippi came over to help him find the switch to turn off the bus.
- CHERNO stated when he went back to turn off the bus, the driver was no longer in the driver's seat. He thought the driver had gotten out of the bus.
- CHERNO stated the area in front of the rear axles, which was previously smoldering, was now on fire.
- CHERNO extinguished the fire and got one more person out of the driver's side. The male told CHERNO there was no one else inside the bus; they had all be taken out of the other side.
- CHERNO stated EMS arrived and were trying to get a man and woman out of the bus.
- CHERNO stated he walked around to the passenger side of the bus and saw a person hanging out of the bus; appearing to be dead.
- CHERNO stated he went back to the front of the bus to see if he could see anyone else inside the bus. That's when he saw the bus driver had fallen out of the driver's seat and was wedged in the debris on the passenger side.
- CHERNO stated he doesn't know how the driver would have gotten out of the driver's seat. When he initially checked on the driver, he shook him, checked his pulse, and didn't get anything. He thought the driver was dead.
- CHERNO stated everybody thought maybe the driver fell asleep. CHERNO went on to explain that he thought maybe the driver had stroke of something because the driver was non-responsive after the accident; no facial movements or anything.
- CHERNO stated once he got done assisting with the Greyhound, he went to check on drivers of the semi-trucks that were struck by the bus.
- CHERNO stated his truck had a camera that caught the crash, but it only faces forward.
- CHERNO provided written and verbal consent to download information from his truck's airbag control module.
- After the interview, CHERNO stated he parked on the shoulder at the rest area at approximately 8:20 p.m., on July 11, 2023.
- CHERNO stated he heard one person say that the bus driver had been driving erratically for about an hour before the crash. Additionally, CHERNO stated he heard a group of people were cursing and saying they hoped the driver went to jail.
- CHERNO stated he asked the young guy from Mississippi if he thought the driver fell asleep and the guy said, "Hell yeah he did!"

The interview concluded at approximately 5:35 a.m.

The DVD, video statement checklist, and consent to search form will be submitted to the Illinois State Police Zone 6 Evidence Vault. Copies of the documents are attached to this report for review.

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INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Case Number 23-39117800039	Case Title PARADISE, RAYMOND C.	Report Type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Location <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle			
Report Purpose INTERVIEW OF ABDIKADIR IBRAHIM		Report Date 07/31/2023	Activity Date 07/12/2023		
Lead Number	Drug Buys	Arrest Warrants	Search Warrants	Overhear Admin	Overhear Warrant
Reporting Agent HOBBS, CHARIS				D Number 7157	Zone/Office ISPZ6CL
Case Agent IRWIN, TRAVIS				Case Agent ID Number 6344	Case Agent Zone/Office ISPZ6CL
ALPR Used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	APLR Location				
NARRATIVE					

The purpose of this report is to document the audio/video recorded interview of

Abdikadir A. Ibrahim
M/B; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Nashville, TN 37207
[REDACTED]

In reference to a fatal crash that occurred on I-70 west bound at the Silver Lake Rest Area. A Greyhound bus traveling from Indianapolis to St. Louis struck three truck tractor semi-trailer combinations that were parked on the shoulder of the ramp into the rest area. Ibrahim's truck tractor semi-trailer combination was involved in the crash.

On 07/12/23, at approximately 4:39 AM, R/A conducted the interview of Ibrahim in my unmarked squad car on scene of the crash.

The following is a summary of Ibrahim's statements and should not be considered verbatim.

- Ibrahim stated he was in his sleeper berth, resting. Ibrahim stated normally he parks inside the rest area, but it was full when he arrived, so he had parked on the ramp with other trucks.
- Ibrahim stated he woke up to a disaster. Ibrahim stated a Greyhound bus hit him from the rear causing him to fall forward in between the seats.
- Ibrahim stated he arrived at approximately 10:00 PM, on 07/11/23, and was struck around 1:50 AM.
- Ibrahim stated he drives for MZ Cargo out of Mason, OH.

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- Ibrahim stated there are dash cameras in the truck. Ibrahim stated the truck is leased by Ryder.
- Ibrahim stated he is loaded with US Mail, approximately 4,000 lbs, going to Kansas City.
- Ibrahim stated he called 9-1-1 after the crash.

The interview concluded at 4:46 AM.

Ibrahim had a laceration on his upper left arm that was checked out by emergency medical services personnel on scene.

Off camera, Ibrahim signed written consent to search the dash cameras and airbag/diagnostic control module on the truck. Ibrahim also stated he had his truck running with the air-conditioning on.

The interview was downloaded onto a DVD and placed into the Zone 6 Evidence Vault with the written consent and field notes. A copy of the field notes and written consent are attached to this report for review.

ATTACHMENTS

Field Notes - 1 page

Written Consent - 1 page

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Case Number 23-39117800039	Case Title PARADISE, RAYMOND C.	Report Type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Location <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle			
Report Purpose INTERVIEW OF EVERETT SHARP		Report Date 07/31/2023	Activity Date 07/12/2023		
Lead Number	Drug Buys	Arrest Warrants	Search Warrants	Overhear Admin	Overhear Warrant
Reporting Agent HOBBS, CHARIS				D Number 7157	Zone/Office ISPZ6CL
Case Agent IRWIN, TRAVIS				Case Agent ID Number 6344	Case Agent Zone/Office ISPZ6CL
ALPR Used <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	APLR Location				
NARRATIVE					

The purpose of this report is to document the audio/video recorded interview of

Everett J. Sharp
M/W; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Graysville, OH 45734
[REDACTED]

In reference to a fatal crash that occurred on I-70 west bound at the Silver Lake Rest Area. A Greyhound bus traveling from Indianapolis to St. Louis struck three truck tractor semi-trailer combinations that were parked on the shoulder of the ramp into the rest area. Sharp's truck tractor semi-trailer combination was involved in the crash.

On 07/12/23, at approximately 4:58 AM, R/A conducted the interview of Sharp in my unmarked squad car on scene of the crash.

The following is a summary of Sharp's statements and should not be considered verbatim.

- Sharp stated he was parked in front of the last truck on the shoulder of the on-ramp to the rest area. Sharp stated he was in the sleeper berth for his 10-hour reset (federal standard of rest required). Sharp stated he arrived at the rest area at approximately 10:30 PM.
- Sharp stated he was pushed out of bed and onto the floor after the crash. Sharp looked and saw the bus outside and got his clothes on to check it out.
- Sharp stated he did not call 9-1-1 or contact anyone on the bus. Sharp stated the driver parked in front of him had spoken to him.

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- Sharp stated he drives for Richard Wolfe Trucking from Mt. Vernon, OH. Sharp stated there are dash cameras on the truck.

The interview concluded at 5:03 AM.

Off camera, R/A contacted Richard Wolfe and obtained verbal consent to search the airbag/diagnostic control module on the truck. Wolfe stated his safety manager, Heather, would be checking the cameras when she arrived to work at approximately 6:00 AM. Sharp signed the written consent to search form.

Sharp stated his truck was running with the air-conditioning running.

The interview was downloaded onto a DVD and placed into the Zone 6 Evidence Vault with the written consent and field notes. A copy of the field notes and written consent are attached to this report for review.

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