



Human Performance Attachment – Interview with Kenworth Driver

Highland, IL

HWY23MH015

(14 pages)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of:

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FATAL CRASH BETWEEN MOTORCOACH
& COMBINATION VEHICLES ALONG REST
AREA RAMP ON I-70 NEAR HIGHLAND,
ILLINOIS ON JULY 12, 2023

Accident No.: HWY23MH015

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Interview of: ANDREW SHARP, Truck Driver
Richard Wolfe Trucking

Caseyville, Illinois

Thursday,
July 13, 2023

APPEARANCES:

MICHAEL FOX, Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board

RAFAEL MARSHALL, Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board

CHUCK BUNNING, Federal Program Specialist
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

I N D E X

ITEM

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Interview of Andrew Sharp:

By Mr. Fox

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By Mr. Bunning

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By Mr. Marshall

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I N T E R V I E W

1
2 MR. FOX: -- NTSB out of Washington, D.C. and we
3 are currently located at a tow yard -- what is it called again?

4 MR. BUNNING: Petroff (ph.).

5 MR. BUNNING: Petro?

6 MR. BUNNING: Petroff.

7 MR. FOX: Petroff, and what city are we in?

8 MR. BUNNING: Caseyville.

9 MR. FOX: Caseyville, Illinois, and we have one
10 of the drivers that was involved in the crash that was parked at
11 the rest area. We're just going to go ahead and interview him and
12 before we begin, we'll just go around the room and introduce each
13 person.

14 Sir, can you please state your name and your title?

15 MR. SHARP: Andrew Sharp, truck driver.

16 MR. FOX: Truck driver? Can you spell your last
17 name?

18 MR. SHARP: S H A R P.

19 MR. FOX: S H A R P.

20 And go ahead, Rafael?

21 MR. MARSHALL: My name is Rafael Marshall. My last name is
22 M A R S H A L L. I am the human performance investigator with the
23 NTSB.

24 MR. BUNNING: Chuck Bunning with the Federal Motor Carrier
25 Safety Administration, federal programs specialist, Illinois

1 division.

2 MR. FOX: Okay.

3 INTERVIEW OF ANDREW SHARP BY MR. FOX:

4

5 Q. Mr. Sharp, I'm sorry that we're speaking under such
6 conditions and I'm pulling you away from your work. But I
7 understand you were involved in the crash the other day?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. And can you explain why you were located -- or let's start --
10 who do you work for?

11 A. Richard Wolfe Trucking.

12 Q. How long have you worked for him?

13 A. Six months.

14 Q. Six months, okay, and where were you coming from and going
15 to?

16 A. I came from Coshocton, Ohio, going to Denver.

17 Q. And you were bedding down for the night?

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. Not Denver, sorry, Kansas City, Missouri.

21 Q. Okay, Kansas City, Missouri, and how long had you been at the
22 rest area?

23 A. Well, I parked there, it was 10:30 at night.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. And I was out of hours, so I had to stop there, no hours to

1 go anywhere else.

2 Q. Now, where were you in the sequence on the shoulder? What do
3 you remember?

4 A. I was the third truck -- or the second truck, I was in the
5 middle.

6 Q. You were in the middle?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. So, behind you was what vehicle?

9 A. The mail truck.

10 Q. And then -- the metal truck?

11 A. Mail.

12 Q. Mail? U.S. Mail?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. Oh, okay, I didn't know it was the U.S. Mail, and the one in
15 front of you?

16 A. It was a Bob's truck. I can't remember what color it was.

17 Q. Okay, and what were you hauling?

18 A. I was hauling steel pipe.

19 Q. Steel pipe, and can you remember anything in particular? You
20 know, were you asleep?

21 A. I was asleep. I mean I got -- I was dead asleep. I got
22 rolled out into the floor and all my stuff piled on top of me.
23 So, I didn't really know what was going on until I got up and
24 looked. Then the bus was right there beside us.

25 Q. And then what happened?

1 A. Well, I got dressed, got up, and seen if there was anything I
2 could do to help.

3 Q. Did you call 9-1-1?

4 A. No, they did.

5 Q. Who is they?

6 A. The guy in the front truck.

7 Q. The guy in the front truck, he called?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. Can you -- did you remember speaking to the driver at all?

10 A. Of the front truck?

11 Q. Of the -- no, of the bus?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Did you see him?

14 A. Nope.

15 Q. You never even saw him?

16 A. No.

17 Q. After you got out, you got dressed and you were on the
18 ground, and you were trying to see if you could render any help.
19 Can you remember anything else that was going on?

20 A. Everybody was there was running everywhere. I didn't -- I
21 don't know nothing else.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. The guy in the front truck, he was the one helping to take
24 them off of the bus. So, that's all I can tell you. Like I said,
25 I didn't help them -- they didn't need my help.

1 MR. FOX: I understand.

2 Rafael?

3 BY MR. MARSHALL:

4 Q. Yeah, so I was just wondering are you familiar with this
5 route that you're taking? I mean have you taken this part of 70
6 before?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. How are the rest stops in that area?

9 A. They're good. I mean, they get crowded at night, but they're
10 good.

11 Q. Okay, did you -- when you went to this rest stop, I mean, did
12 you actually pass through to find out that there was no parking or
13 did you just assume it from --

14 A. Well, I assumed that everybody was up there and then
15 everybody was on the ramp.

16 Q. How often have you seen truckers having to park on the
17 shoulder like that in order to --

18 A. Just about any time you come up through there late at night,
19 they're parking on there.

20 Q. Okay, and what's the situation with -- I guess do all of the
21 trucks have their lights on, the ones that are on the shoulder or
22 are they just like -- are they off?

23 A. Some of them got them off. I had mine on.

24 Q. You had yours on?

25 A. Yeah.

1 Q. Do -- why is --

2 A. I always -- when I park at night, I always leave my parking
3 lights on.

4 MR. MARSHALL: Okay.

5 BY MR. MARSHALL:

6 Q. Now, the visibility in the rest area, the lights were
7 illuminated?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. And the weather was clear and dry?

10 A. Yes.

11 MR. FOX: Chuck, did you have anything you wanted to ask?

12 BY MR. BUNNING:

13 Q. How much of an -- I mean, like, what do you do in order to
14 find a place to park?

15 A. You just search until you find one.

16 Q. Okay, there's no computer app or anything like that or any
17 sort of thing?

18 A. No, my GPS tells you how far to go for truck stops.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. But they don't say anything about rest areas. The truck stop
21 -- you can't get in a truck stop at night. You've got to get in
22 there early or you don't get a parking spot.

23 BY MR. BUNNING:

24 Q. So, question, about what time of night is too late to get
25

1 into a truck stop?

2 A. Anything after 8:00 is too late.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. Everybody usually gets up 4:30, 5:30 in the morning to start
5 their day.

6 Q. Right.

7 A. Well, 5:30 -- well, by the time -- before 5:00 rolls around
8 in the evening and you've got your 12 hours, you're only allowed
9 to drive 11.

10 Q. Yeah, you've got 12 hours, yeah.

11 A. So, everybody's looking for a parking spot.

12 BY MR. MARSHALL:

13 Q. Do you know what the state law is for over here to park on
14 the ramp like that?

15 A. I have no clue. They told me it was good.

16 Q. Who told you that?

17 A. The rest area people.

18 MR. MARSHALL: Okay, I didn't know what the law is.

19 MR. SHARP: I didn't a sign there -- it didn't say
20 no parking.

21 MR. SHARP: Yeah, they would -- yeah, but --

22 MR. FOX: Sometimes they will, though.

23 MR. SHARP: If you ain't allowed to park, they'll have
24 something.

25 MR. MARSHALL: Okay, right.

1 BY MR. FOX:

2 Q. Is there anything that you saw or feel that we should know
3 about that we didn't cover?

4 A. No, I mean, like I said, I don't know a whole lot.

5 Q. Yeah, no, we appreciate it, and I didn't want to break you
6 away from your work.

7 A. I mean, the cops, when they got there, they told us all to go
8 behind the trucks, to go back away from the scene. So, I mean, I
9 don't know if they seen anything or not. But me, I was back in
10 the back. I didn't know nothing.

11 MR. FOX: Okay.

12 BY MR. MARSHALL:

13 Q. So, yeah, one of our areas of concern, as you can tell, is
14 the amount of space for truckers to rest when they're out of hours
15 of service. Do you have any comments or suggestions in that area?

16 A. No, not really.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. I mean, they need to make them rest areas bigger.

19 Q. Yeah.

20 A. I mean, that's just a given, you only got so much space.

21 MR. MARSHALL: Right.

22 MR. FOX: Okay, Rafael, any other questions?

23 MR. MARSHALL: I'm fine.

24 BY MR. MARSHALL:

25 Q. Or do you have a number that we can contact you if we have

1 further -- any questions?

2 A. [REDACTED]

3 Q. Okay, thank you so much.

4 A. You are welcome.

5 BY MR. FOX:

6 Q. All right, and the owner of your company is who?

7 A. Richard.

8 Q. Richard?

9 A. Wolfe.

10 MR. FOX: Okay, well I'll probably be calling him. We might
11 need to get some additional information. But sir, at this point,
12 we're going to let you go. We really appreciate your time.

13 Today is 2:02 p.m. on July 13th. Thank you, sir, for your time.
14 We appreciate you.

15 MR. SHARP: Thank you.

16 MR. FOX: Thank you.

17 And the interview is now concluded.

18 Thank you, sir.

19 (Whereupon, at 2:02 p.m., 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 CRASH BETWEEN MOTORCOACH &
COMBINATION VEHICLES ALONG REST
AREA RAMP ON I-70 NEAR HIGHLAND,
ILLINOIS ON JULY 12, 2023
Interview of Andrew Sharp

ACCIDENT NO.: HWY23MH015

PLACE: Caseyville, Illinois

DATE: July 13, 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.



Carolyn Hanna
Transcriber