

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

\* \* \* \* \*

Investigation of: \*

\*

CATHLAMET FERRY COLLISION \*

NEAR WEST SEATTLE FAUNTLEROY \*

Accident No.: 

DOCK IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON \*

ON JULY 28, 2022 \*

\*

\* \* \* \* \*

Interview of: DAVID ANDERSON, Terminal Agent Supervisor  
Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal

Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal Office

Thursday  
July 28, 2022

APPEARANCES:

██████████, Lieutenant  
United States Coast Guard

██████████, Chief Warrant Officer  
United States Coast Guard

I N D E X

ITEM

PAGE

Interview of David Anderson:

By LT [REDACTED]

4

By CWO [REDACTED]

5

I N T E R V I E W

(3:06 p.m.)

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2  
3 LT [REDACTED]: Good afternoon. This is Lieutenant [REDACTED]  
4 [REDACTED] in the Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal Office. Today's date is  
5 the 28th of July 2022, and it is 1506.

6 In the room is myself, Lieutenant [REDACTED].

7 MR. ANDERSON: David Anderson.

8 CWO [REDACTED]: Chief Warrant Officer [REDACTED]

9 LT [REDACTED]: And we are conducting an interview in regard to  
10 the allision that took place between the Washington State Ferry  
11 *Cathlamet* and the Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal.

## INTERVIEW OF DAVID ANDERSON

12  
13 BY LT [REDACTED]:

14 Q. So would you mind just explaining what you observed today,  
15 and then also what your position is?

16 A. My name is David Anderson. I'm the terminal agent, the  
17 supervisor. This morning, I was sitting at my desk changing my  
18 password, and all of a sudden there was a collision. The building  
19 shook. I looked up. The ferry was going past my window. It  
20 almost hit this fishing boat over here the silver one. At the  
21 last minute within feet I saw where the captain had reversed, and  
22 started to back down. He just barely made it, and then he backed  
23 up, and then he pulled into the slip, and I saw the pickle fork  
24 hanging down. And I immediately called 911. I called the Ops  
25 Center, and I called my manager.

1 Q. And so you didn't see the vessel approaching until it was  
2 already -- after the allision had already happened?

3 A. When I -- there was the, the -- he hit the dolphin, and I  
4 looked up, and -- normally they blow and let us know they're  
5 coming. There was no blowing or nothing. I looked up, and I  
6 didn't see anybody in the wheelhouse for a second, and then I saw  
7 the white shirt go to the helm, and as the boat was going by, and  
8 then back down, and backed out, and then pulled into the slip.

9 Q. Okay. And so is it normal that the ferry will contact you  
10 guys either, like, via radio or phone to let you know that they're  
11 making the approach, or is it normally just a sound signal?

12 A. No. They call us on the hand-held radio, and tell us that  
13 they're on approach.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. And we respond to it to let them know we're ready for them to  
16 come on in.

17 Q. And did you receive a call that morning?

18 A. No, we did not.

19 Q. Okay. And then do you guys have any logbook entries that you  
20 guys keep her or is it --

21 A. No.

22 Q. Okay.

23 LT [REDACTED]: Do you have anything?

24 BY CWO [REDACTED]:

25 Q. So how far out do they normally give you a call on the hand-

1 held? A guesstimate is fine.

2 A. Less than a -- just say 100 feet or so off the dock. I don't  
3 know the exact distance, but you can see the ferry, and they'll  
4 call, say, okay, *Cathlamet* is coming in, and my attendant will  
5 respond Fauntleroy standing boy. And they are on the bridge; make  
6 sure the bridge up high enough so the boat can get in, and that's  
7 it. But he didn't call in this morning. It scared me because  
8 this -- to hit that far out, and shake this building, it shook me.  
9 And what scared me was when I looked and he was going by it wasn't  
10 slowing down. It was going. And so I thought -- I said, oh, my  
11 god, he's going to hit that boat. Then I said, oh, no, he's going  
12 to run ashore. And he didn't. But it scared me.

13 BY LT [REDACTED]:

14 Q. I really appreciate you taking the time today. Is there  
15 anything else that you wanted to share?

16 A. No.

17 LT [REDACTED]: Chris, do you have anything else?

18 BY CWO [REDACTED]:

19 Q. So when -- and you might know, you might not. That's okay.  
20 You don't have to speculate. But -- is it the master that calls  
21 and says hey we're coming in, or the quartermaster?

22 A. Whoever is at the helm calls. Most times it's the captain.  
23 He will call and say, you know, here's a call coming in, *Cathlamet*  
24 coming in --

25 (Speaker interference)

1 A. Let him know we heard him, and we're ready for him to come on  
2 -- I've been here --

3 (Speaker interference)

4 A. -- the bridge don't work, we tell him, hey, Capt., you know,  
5 stop because we can't operate the bridge. But everything was fine  
6 this morning. Everything was quiet. It was peaceful. And I had  
7 just said, let this be a peaceful day today, and the boom. But,  
8 yes, 9 times out of 10 they call in, but today he didn't.

9 CWO [REDACTED]: Okay.

10 MR. ANDERSON: And like I say, I've been here long enough  
11 where I've seen them hit the boat from time-to-time, hit the dock  
12 from time-to-time, but he was way over here to the south. That's  
13 what I didn't -- and when I saw the boat kept going it scared me.  
14 I was, like, I said he's going to hit that boat. I said, no, he's  
15 going to run, run aground. And then I could see the wash because  
16 I was looking right out the window, and I could see the wash, and  
17 he backed out, and then he pulled into the slip. Then I saw the  
18 captain come out the side door on his cell phone, and he walked to  
19 that end of the boat, the far end, and that's what I saw.

20 BY LT [REDACTED]:

21 Q. And he was on his cell phone?

22 A. Yes, ma'am.

23 BY CWO [REDACTED]:

24 Q. Do you know what captain it was?

25 A. I think it was Captain Dave. I done forgot his last name

1 now, but I think it was Captain Dave.

2 Q. So did he -- no hair, bald?

3 A. Bald.

4 Q. Okay. All right.

5 A. He's bald. He's kind of tall. He's taller than me. Had a  
6 white shirt on.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. And I could see him with his hand up talking on his cell  
9 phone, and he walked to the far end of the boat.

10 Q. Okay. And do you know who brought the boat in, actually  
11 landed the boat?

12 A. I thought it was him.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. But I'm not 100 percent sure, but I'm pretty sure it was him.

15 Q. Okay. All right.

16 LT [REDACTED]: Okay. Well, thank you so much for your time. I  
17 really appreciate it. And if you wouldn't mind I'm just going to  
18 ask that you add your cell phone number on the back of here --

19 MR. ANDERSON: Sure.

20 LT [REDACTED]: In case I need to get in touch with you.

21 MR. ANDERSON: No problem.

22 LT [REDACTED]: That concludes the interview at this time. The  
23 time is 3:15, 3:15.

24 (Whereupon, at 3:15 p.m., the interview was concluded.)

25



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the  
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

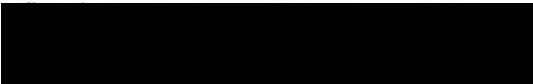
IN THE MATTER OF:            *CATHLAMET* FERRY COLLISION  
NEAR WEST SEATTLE FAUNTLEROY  
DOCK IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
ON JULY 28, 2022  
Interview of David Anderson

ACCIDENT NO.:                

PLACE:                         Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal Office

DATE:                         July 28, 2022

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.



Katherine Motley  
Transcriber