

Human Performance Attachment – Transcript of Busdriver Interview Belton, South Carolina HWY20FH001

(27 pages)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Investigation of:

HIGHWAY CRASH NEAR BELTON,

HIGHWAY CRASH NEAK DELION,

ANDERSON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA * Accident No.: HWY20MH001

DECEMBER 17 2019 *

Interview of: TAYLOR RAMSEY

Bus driver

Anderson County Disability and Special Needs Facility Anderson, South Carolina

Thursday, December 19, 2019

APPEARANCES:

RONALD KAMINSKI, Senior Survival Factors Investigator National Transportation Safety Board

DAVID RAYBURN, Investigator National Transportation Safety Board

HOPE HARRISON, Human Resources Director Anderson County Disability and Special Needs Facility

MARSHALL NASH, Grounds and Fleet Manager Anderson County Disability and Special Needs Facility

I N D E X ITEM PAGE Interview of Taylor Ramsey: By Mr. Rayburn 4 By Mr. Kaminski 7 By Mr. Rayburn 8 By Mr. Kaminski 12 By Mr. Rayburn 14 By Mr. Kaminski 18

1 INTERVIEW 2 MR. KAMINSKI: Today's date is December 19, 2019. My name is 3 Ronald Kaminski with the NTSB. Along with me is Mr. David Rayburn with the NTSB. And we're here at the Anderson Disability --Anderson County Disability and Special Needs Facility here in 6 Anderson. And we're going to be talking to the driver of the Ford bus. 8 Her name is Taylor, T-a-y-l-o-r, Brooke, middle name, B-r-o-o-k-e, 9 last name Ramsey, R-a-m-s-e-y. And your date of birth? 10 MS. RAMSEY: is her date of birth. So I guess we 11 MR. KAMINSKI: 12 just start with -- from my end (indiscernible). Just start 13 with -- go ahead, Dave. 14 MR. RAYBURN: Yeah. 15 INTERVIEW OF TAYLOR RAMSEY BY MR. RAYBURN: 16 17 I'm going to do -- we have pretty much a standardized 18 interview process. I'll get -- towards the end of the interview, 19 I'll ask about the accident circumstances, probably ask a lot of 20 general information just to kind of put you at ease and to let you 21 know the standard information that we ask everybody. Let's see. 22 So you're age 27? 23 Α. Yes, sir. 24 Okay. And I want to make sure the police report has got your 25 address, which is right -- they got

- 1 A. Um-hmm.
- 2 Q. Okay. And zip code is 29621?
- 3 A. (No audible response.)
- 4 Q. Okay. And what is your phone number?
- 5 A.
- 6 Q.
- (No audible response.)
- 8 Q. And that's ? Is that a cell or a home phone?
- 9 A. Cell.
- 10 Q. Cell? Okay. And let's see. Are you married?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Okay. And how many years have you been working as a driver,
- 13 | counting this job and other jobs?
- 14 A. Just this job. I've been here for roughly $2\frac{1}{2}$, 3 years.
- 15 Q. Yeah. Okay. And what other types of employment have you
- 16 had?
- 17 A. Some were admin --
- 18 Q. Admin?
- 19 A. -- and retail.
- 20 Q. Okay. And did you have any college?
- 21 A. Hmm?
- 22 Q. Did you have any college hours?
- 23 A. Yeah. I did schooling for billing and coding, and then did a
- 24 little bit of just the normal classes when I graduated high
- 25 school.

- 1 Q. Okay. And I went over with Sandy some of the training that
- 2 | you did. I've got your DDC certificates and your training that
- 3 you went on that -- I understood, orientation and the training is
- 4 about 2 weeks?
- 5 A. Um-hmm.
- 6 Q. Okay. And then I want to go over kind of like your work/rest
- 7 cycle for the couple -- 3 days leading up to the accident. So the
- 8 | accident was Wednesday. So --
- 9 A. Huh-uh, it was Tuesday.
- 10 MS. HARRISON: No, it was Tuesday.
- 11 MR. KAMINSKI: Tuesday.
- MR. RAYBURN: Tuesday, Tuesday.
- MR. KAMINSKI: Yeah, I've got, accident was approximately --
- MR. RAYBURN: I'm confused.
- 15 MR. KAMINSKI: -- 3:20 p.m.
- MR. RAYBURN: Yeah. The -- we flew in from all over the
- 17 place and --
- 18 MR. KAMINSKI: And he didn't get in until 5:00 in the
- 19 morning. His flight was 6 hours late, so he's drained.
- 20 MR. RAYBURN: So on --
- 21 MR. NASH: And he's fixing to get married.
- MS. RAMSEY: Oh, my.
- MR. KAMINSKI: Yeah.
- 24 BY MR. RAYBURN:
- 25 Q. On Tuesday, about what time did you wake up?

- 1 A. I'm an early riser, so I get up about 4:45 to 5:00.
- 2 Q. And time of sleep that night before?
- 3 A. Oh, I go to bed at like 8:30.
- 4 0. 8:30?
- 5 A. Yeah, or 9:00.
- 6 Q. And let's go back day before that on Monday. Did you work
- 7 Monday also?
- 8 A. Um-hmm. I drove Monday as well. So I got up same thing.
- 9 Q. Same thing?
- 10 A. Yeah.
- 11 Q. Okay. Monday night?
- 12 A. Same thing, 8:30 to 9:00.
- 13 Q. And Sunday, were you off that day?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. You remember what you did all day or --
- 16 A. Well, my daughter's father is in jail, so I took her to his
- 17 | visit. That's all I did Sunday.
- 18 BY MR. KAMINSKI:
- 19 Q. And you woke up early, the same time?
- 20 A. Probably a little bit -- no, probably about 7:00 to 8:00 that
- 21 day.
- 22 Q. Okay. But you went to bed --
- 23 A. I always go to bed early, yeah.
- 24 Q. Okay, 8:30 to 9:00?
- 25 A. Yeah.

1 BY MR. RAYBURN: 2 And how old is your daughter? Q. 3 Α. Five. 4 Five. Okay. A couple medical questions. What's your height Q. 5 and weight? Probably 160, 5'5". 6 7 Q. And do you have a primary care doctor? 8 Α. 9 0. 10 Yeah. He's in Greer. Α. 11 MR. KAMINSKI: 12 MS. RAMSEY: Um-hmm. 13 MR. KAMINSKI: And he's in Greer? 14 MS. RAMSEY: Um-hmm. 15 MR. RAYBURN: How long have you seen him? MS. RAMSEY: Five, 6 years. He's my daughter's doctor as 16 17 well. 18 MR. KAMINSKI: What was the first name? 19 MS. RAMSEY: 20 BY MR. RAYBURN: 21 Let's see. Do you have any ongoing medical conditions or --Q. 22 Huh-uh. Α. 23 Good health? Q. 2.4 Α. Um-hmm. 25 And do you take any medications? Q.

- 1 A. None. I've been taking Sudafed, but I haven't taken any in a
- 2 | few days. Because I had a cough and stuff. But no, I don't take
- 3 anything every day, any day.
- 4 Q. When is the last time you took some Sudafed? Do you
- 5 remember?
- 6 A. Probably about 4 or 5 days ago. It wasn't working.
- 7 Q. The -- I think Sandy said that when you all are hired, you
- 8 have to give a medical history?
- 9 A. I'm sure, yeah.
- 10 O. Yeah.
- 11 A.
- 12 Q. Yeah, okay. Okay. I'm going to go into just the general
- 13 accident circumstances. You can tell me -- we can start wherever
- 14 you want to and just kind of describe what happened on that day.
- 15 A. The whole day, or leading up to the work?
- 16 Q. You can start wherever you want to, and --
- 17 A. Well, at 2:30 we load up the individuals for our p.m. route,
- 18 because we do a.m. and p.m.
- 19 Q. Yeah.
- 20 A. So we loaded up right out here. And we have a roll-call
- 21 | sheet on the bus. So once everybody boards, you yell out their
- 22 | names and you mark them off. A few of mine didn't come that day,
- 23 | so we were ahead of schedule. Normally we wouldn't be right there
- 24 at 3:30. And so we had left here and went towards Honea Path.
- 25 And I had just dropped off Lamar, and I was coming back to Belton

- 1 to drop off Kevin, was my next stop. I think it's Belton-Honea
- 2 Path Highway is what they call it.
- 3 O. Um-hmm.
- 4 A. But we had just got over the railroad tracks. And that's
- 5 when -- I don't know how far we were from the railroad tracks,
- 6 | but -- it wasn't a mile, but we weren't on them or -- you know, we
- 7 | were a good --
- 8 Q. Yeah, just a few hundred yards past?
- 9 A. Yeah. And that's when I saw the SUV. I thought it was white
- 10 for some reason. Everybody's saying it was black. But I don't
- 11 | know; I thought it was white. But I saw her coming into our lane,
- 12 and felt just like I had a second to react. So I grabbed my wheel
- 13 just as hard as I could and braced myself, because I knew she was
- 14 | going to hit us. And that was when she hit. And then it felt
- 15 | like she hit again closer to the side of the bus almost. And then
- 16 | we started spinning, and it felt like we were flipping. But I
- 17 | don't think we flipped, it just felt like we were flipping. And
- 18 then we kind of landed on the side of the road. And I don't know
- 19 | if there's a ditch or just from when she had knocked off the
- 20 wheels, but we were slanted in the bus.
- 21 Q. Yeah. Okay. Did -- when you drive, do you use like your
- 22 | cruise control or --
- 23 A. No, they don't work on the bus.
- 24 Q. You didn't have one? Oh, okay.
- 25 A. No, they have them, but they're old. They don't -- nothing

- 1 | works on them. You're lucky if you get a good radio station.
- 2 Q. Do you remember about how fast you were driving?
- 3 A. Probably 45, 46. It starts to slow down. It's -- I think it
- 4 was around like 55, then it goes down to 45, and then when you
- 5 | get -- because we were kind of on the outskirts of Belton City, so
- 6 | it'll start to go down to 35, and then it'll drop down to 25 once
- 7 you get into the actual town.
- 8 Q. So you were coming out of a 55 zone --
- 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 Q. -- going into a 45? Okay.
- 11 A. About the stretch where I was, is where we all start to slow
- 12 down going into town.
- 13 Q. On the -- after the accident occurred, how did you -- did you
- 14 | notify the police on your phone or --
- 15 A. I lost my phone. Once we stopped spinning, we were slanted.
- 16 And so it was about five seconds, and I just threw off my seatbelt
- 17 and I turned it off. And the steering wheel was smoking, and I
- 18 | didn't know it smoked some airbag (indiscernible), and my first
- 19 reaction was, the bus is going to catch on fire. And there was a
- 20 | lot of people that were out there, and I was just screaming for
- 21 someone to help us. I kept screaming, I have adults with
- 22 disabilities, I got to get them off.
- I crawled out of the driver's seat. I had to scoot like
- 24 backwards, because I couldn't just lift my leg up like I normally
- 25 | would to go out. I had to crawl out. And I pulled myself up with

- 1 | the steps on the bus, and that's when I started -- did the latch
- 2 on the door. And I was kicking it as hard as I could, and I
- 3 | couldn't get it opened.
- 4 BY MR. KAMINSKI:
- 5 Q. Was that an entry door?
- 6 A. Yeah, because the driver's side, you couldn't open it at all.
- 7 A. Because you're on an incline?
- 8 Q. Yeah. And once I couldn't get the door open, I looked back
- 9 and Chris and Tyler were alert and talking. And I just touched
- 10 them kind of on the neck and told them it was okay. And then I
- 11 | looked around. That's when I saw Kevin and Karen. And I just
- 12 | told them I was going to get everybody off. So I went back to the
- 13 door, and I was kicking it just like hard. I was punching
- 14 | everything. I was trying just to get anything open. And that's
- 15 when two gentlemen ran up. And I finally got the door to kick
- open, and they opened the back door where you get the wheelchairs
- 17 out.
- 18 I told Chris and Tyler to jump off and run. They jumped off.
- 19 And then I got Karen. I carried Karen off and handed her off to
- 20 just a bystander out there. I went back on the bus, and Kathy was
- 21 | screaming. Her arm, I could tell, was completely broke. And
- 22 Kevin was -- you could tell Kevin was still buckled in, but the
- 23 | whole side of the bus was just gone. And Kevin was just doubled
- 24 over like that. Then
- 25 I went to the wheelchairs, and the guys were saying, we need

```
a knife, we need a knife. And I said, no, there's buckles.
 1
 2
    They're hooked in on two sets of hooks, and then they have a lap
 3
    belt that goes over. So I started undoing their buckles. And I
    grabbed Jimmy. And I held -- kind of like held him up. And then
 5
    a gentleman got him, got his shoulders, and I grabbed his feet,
 6
    and we lowered him off the back. And then I did the same for
 7
    Jennifer. I kind of picked her up, and then I just carried her
    over to the back and they lowered her down, and I lowered her feet
 8
    down because she can't walk at all. And then I went back to
 9
10
    Kathy, and she was just screaming. And I was just kissing her,
11
    telling her that I'm not leaving her. And the -- she kept saying,
12
    Kevin's dead. And I said, no, he's okay.
13
         And then about that time, I think a few volunteer
14
    firefighters got there first.
15
         MR. RAYBURN: So two kids, they had wheelchairs?
         MS. RAMSEY: Um-hmm. And then --
16
17
         MR. KAMINSKI: They were adults, they weren't two kids.
         MS. RAMSEY: No, they were all adults.
18
19
         MR. KAMINSKI: They're all adults, yeah.
20
         MS. RAMSEY: There's no kids. They're all adults, yeah.
                                                                    And
21
    when they got there, I kept screaming that I needed a guy or
22
    someone to come -- because the windows were kind of blown out.
23
    But if I unbuckled her seatbelt, she was going to fall.
24
         BY MR. KAMINSKI:
25
         Because that door -- because the side door wasn't
    0.
```

1 (indiscernible)?

- 2 \blacksquare A. Because there was nothing there to hold her. And her arm, I
- 3 mean this -- it was this arm that was completely black and blue.
- 4 So I just kept wiping the blood away. And I kept --
- O. And it was Kathy?
- 6 A. Kathy, yeah. And I kept telling her it was okay.
- 7 And then they all -- first responders got there. I think it
- 8 was a lot of the firefighters first that were there before EMS got
- 9 there. And once they got there, they kind of like ushered me off.
- 10 And I got off, and I was screaming that -- I guess in the process,
- 11 one of the bystanders said, you kept screaming that you have a
- 12 | five-year-old you had to get a hold of. And so I gave them my
- 13 number, and they found my phone somewhere. And then I started
- 14 making calls.
- And I kept running to Tyler and Chris and made sure they were
- 16 okay. And then I went back on the bus and found the book that we
- 17 keep that has our -- we do a van check-off where we check off just
- 18 everything on the van, the mileage, the number, everything. So
- 19 | I -- in that book, there's also a log that says who was on that
- 20 | bus on that day. And I grabbed that list and just ripped it out
- 21 of the binder, and I started running around counting heads to make
- 22 | sure I could account for everybody that was on the bus. And then
- 23 | the troopers got there, and they started asking me questions.
- 24 BY MR. RAYBURN:
- 25 \mathbb{Q} . The -- at the time of the accident, were you on the cell

1.5

- 1 phone at all or --
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. No?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 | Q. Okay. And I didn't even ask you about more -- let me -- your
- 6 | work day. You know, I asked you like when you got up and when you
- 7 | went to sleep. But like what time do you normally go to work?
- 8 A. Well, it's different. On route days, we start at 7:00 in the
- 9 morning, and my particular route leaves off at Belton CTH. Some
- 10 routes leave from right here, but we don't. So I left my house
- 11 probably about 6:25, 6:30, drove to Belton. And we go inside of
- 12 | that CTH and clock in. And three of my girls that were on the
- 13 bus, that's where they live, they live in that CTH. So they're
- 14 the first ones on the bus, and then we do our route. And then we
- 15 | usually get back here -- just different times. It depends on if
- 16 you have a full route. That day, I didn't have a full route.
- 17 Some days are different. Kevin only comes Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- 18 So not every individual comes every day.
- 19 Q. Yeah. So what time do you get off in the afternoon?
- 20 A. We always -- I would have probably landed at Belton CTH a
- 21 | little bit earlier. But roughly about 4:20, 4:30 is when we clock
- 22 out. Belton route is one of the longer routes out of some of the
- 23 routes.
- 24 Q. So you're typically working from 6:30 or 7:00 to about, what?
- 25 A. On route days, it's about 7:00 to 4:30.

```
1 Q. 7:00 to 4:30.
```

- 2 A. But on the other days, if we don't do route, we come here at
- 3 \parallel 8:00 and we get off an hour earlier. So I'd say I drove route 2
- 4 days that week.
- 5 0. Yeah.
- 6 A. The other 2 days, I get off at 3:30.
- 7 Q. Yeah.
- 8 A. That way, it's never over 40 hours.
- 9 MR. KAMINSKI: But Monday and Tuesday, you were working a
- 10 route?
- 11 MS. RAMSEY: Yeah.
- 12 MR. KAMINSKI: Okay.
- MS. RAMSEY: So those we call our longer days, because
- 14 | they're 7:00 to 4:30.
- MR. RAYBURN: So you basically clock in and out? There's a
- 16 time record of when you clock in and out?
- 17 MS. RAMSEY: Um-hmm.
- 18 MR. RAYBURN: Okay. Yeah, I need you to check on that --
- 19 MS. HARRISON: Okay, I can provide --
- 20 MR. RAYBURN: -- time record for --
- 21 MS. HARRISON: I can provide that for you.
- MR. RAYBURN: -- like the week before or whatever.
- 23 MS. HARRISON: Okay.
- MR. RAYBURN: And then I need you to check on her drug test
- 25 that you all -- you all did a drug test, I think?

```
MS. HARRISON: Unfortunately, we did not.
 1
 2
         MR. RAYBURN: You didn't?
 3
         MS. HARRISON: Did not, no. Our policy is that we may do it.
    But she was -- she came in -- they -- she tried to get them to do
 5
    it at the hospital. We don't have anything set up for them to do
 6
    it at the hospital. And when she came in yesterday, of course,
 7
    everyone was -- we had an appointment for her and everyone was
    talking to her, and so it delayed her a little bit.
 8
 9
         MR. RAYBURN: Yeah.
10
         MS. HARRISON: So she did not. But our policy says, we may
11
    drug test.
12
         MR. RAYBURN:
                       Sure.
13
         MS. HARRISON: But -- and our practice is, if it was deemed
14
    her fault, she would've been, absolutely.
15
         MR. RAYBURN: Yeah. I thought that's what she had said
16
    earlier, if we were at fault.
17
         MS. HARRISON: Right.
18
         MR. RAYBURN: Yeah.
19
         MS. HARRISON: Correct.
20
         MR. RAYBURN: I think that kind of mirrors the DOT drug
21
    rules. But --
22
         MS. HARRISON: Right, exactly.
23
         MR. RAYBURN: Yeah, okay.
         Did -- were you injured physically, I mean from the accident
24
25
    at all?
```

- 1 MS. RAMSEY: No, I'm just bruised real bad from the seatbelt.
- 2 BY MR. KAMINSKI:
- 3 Q. Your shoulder? And it came down to the waist?
- 4 A. Yeah. You can see like the bruise from the belt, and then my
- 5 boobs.
- 6 Q. Is it -- so it comes across all the way --
- 7 A. Yeah.
- 8 Q. -- across your breasts and everything? How far down on your
- 9 | side here?
- 10 A. Just like right here to here.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. And my breast has got a bad bruise on it.
- 13 MR. RAYBURN: That's some of the things we do, is -- I'll
- 14 bring that up momentarily. Yeah, we made a bunch of
- 15 recommendations to the medium-sized bus manufacturers to put full
- 16 lap shoulder belts on the -- all the seating positions in the
- 17 | back, because sometimes, smaller children can't tolerate wearing
- 18 | all that belt by itself. So that's why -- that's probably one of
- 19 the main reasons we initiated this investigation, because it
- 20 involved a medium bus with just lap belts.
- 21 MS. RAMSEY: Okay.
- 22 MR. KAMINSKI: And we have done several other crashes with
- 23 | these medium-sized buses with the lab belts, and these lab belts
- 24 | are causing some injuries to people.
- 25 MR. NASH: They were telling me about one in Texas where

- 1 everyone on the bus --
- 2 MR. KAMINSKI: It was high-speed. There was two vehicles
- 3 going 60 miles an hour. Same -- almost the same bus, except there
- 4 was no wheelchair. And it was just an off speed, and they were
- 5 offset. And they hit, and 13 of 14 people died.
- 6 MR. RAYBURN: Yeah.
- 7 MR. KAMINSKI: And they were all belted, lap belted. It was
- 8 just such a high speed.
- 9 MS. HARRISON: Right.
- MR. KAMINSKI: And they were elderly. They were 60s, 70s,
- 11 80s.
- 12 MS. HARRISON: Right. Wow.
- MR. RAYBURN: For the tech recording, could I get you to say
- 14 | your name and position?
- 15 MS. HARRISON: Oh, absolutely. My name is Hope Harrison.
- 16 I'm the HR director.
- 17 MR. KAMINSKI: Thank you.
- 18 MR. RAYBURN: And --
- 19 MR. NASH: My name is Marshall Nash. I'm the grounds and
- 20 fleet manager.
- 21 MR. RAYBURN: Marshall, can you think of anything that --
- 22 BY MR. KAMINSKI:
- 23 |Q. Well, I was going to ask, when you -- so I know in the
- 24 training, they teach you how to secure the wheelchairs --
- 25 A. Um-hmm.

- 1 Q. -- you did that. And then following that, do you also make
- 2 | sure that everybody is wearing their lap belts properly?
- 3 A. Um-hmm. And I will say --
- 4 Q. And do you buckle them yourself, or they --
- 5 A. It depends on the individuals. Like at the day program, I'm
- 6 | in the Doves Group, so a lot of my individuals you have to buckle
- 7 yourselves. But a lot of -- majority of mine on my bus are very
- 8 high-functioning. They know, that's the first things they do is
- 9 put their belts on.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. Yeah. And your wheel -- you buckle your chairs last, just
- 12 | because it takes longer to get them all on and buckled.
- 13 0. The wheelchairs last?
- 14 A. Right. So when you walk through, you always just kind of
- 15 | scan both ways. They're very good about putting seatbelts on. We
- 16 go over safety over there. We have like different classes, I
- 17 | quess you could say. So safety is one of them, and they know a
- 18 lot about safety.
- 19 Q. Okay. Now, did you sit down with -- we did talk to one of
- 20 the troopers earlier. He was with us today. But did you sit down
- 21 and put together a seating chart where everyone was seated?
- 22 A. Um-hmm.
- 23 Q. Okay. And can -- if -- while we're talking, I may try to
- 24 draw one out, but if you could, you know, put in their names of
- 25 where they would have seated.

```
MR. RAYBURN:
                      I think that --
 1
 2
         UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We've had some of the individuals have
 3
    a little bit of trouble with the particular lap belt attachment
    points, the part where it would tighten it on their waists.
 4
 5
    you know if anybody have had any issues with that or might have
 6
    just left it loose because it was difficult?
 7
         MS. RAMSEY: No. Like I said, certain individuals, yeah,
 8
    you'd wonder when you double-check. But the ones on my bus that
 9
    day, they're very smart. The seats are side by side, not --
10
         UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not opposite-like?
11
         MS. RAMSEY: Huh-uh.
12
         MR. RAYBURN: (Indiscernible)?
13
         MS. RAMSEY: No --
14
         MS. HARRISON: Their seats are side by side.
15
         MS. RAMSEY: -- their seats are side by side.
         BY MR. KAMINSKI:
16
17
                There's two seats here, and across, there's -- this is
18
    the stairs -- two seats, two seats?
19
         Huh-uh. So here's me.
    Α.
20
    Q.
         Right.
21
    Α.
         I'll let you do a new one. I'll just put, driver.
22
    Ο.
         Right.
23
                And then right next to me, you're going to have your
    Α.
         Okay.
2.4
    stairs --
25
         Okay.
    Q.
```

- 1 A. -- and then the seat. So two per seat. So there's a seat
- 2 | right behind me, and then right next to it, there's more seats.
- 3 Q. Right, okay.
- 4 A. So they're like -- and I believe there's three or four --
- 5 O. Three rows.
- 6 A. -- set -- three rows.
- 7 Q. Right.
- 8 A. Okay. And then of course, you have your two --
- 9 O. The tie-downs.
- 10 A. -- chairs in the back.
- 11 Q. And is that where those were -- that's where they were seated
- 12 on each side of the door in the back?
- 13 A. Um-hmm, the wheelchairs, yeah. That's where they have to be
- 14 when they're buckled in right there, yeah.
- 15 Q. Okay. And then we have Kevin. He was by the window?
- 16 A. Yeah. Kevin was right behind me.
- 17 Q. Was he -- anyone next to Kevin?
- 18 A. Huh-uh.
- 19 Q. And how about behind Kevin? Do you know who was seated?
- 20 A. Kathy.
- 21 Q. Was she in a window seat or aisle seat?
- 22 A. Most likely a window seat.
- 23 \mathbb{Q} . Oh, yeah, she's the one with the broken left arm, yes.
- MR. RAYBURN: Let's go ahead and go off the -- off. Any more
- 25 questions?

- 1 MR. KAMINSKI: We can keep it on there.
- 2 MR. RAYBURN: Well, if you want to, go ahead.
- 3 MR. KAMINSKI: Yeah.
- 4 BY MR. KAMINSKI:
- 5 Q. And then there's nobody next to Kathy?
- 6 A. Not that I know of --
- 7 Q. Okay.
- 8 A. -- that I remember.
- 9 Q. And then how about behind -- was there anyone behind Kathy in
- 10 either of those seats?
- 11 A. Let's start from up here of what I can remember correctly.
- 12 Pretty sure Chris and Tyler were sitting together right here.
- 13 Q. Okay. Chris was in the aisle?
- 14 A. No, he was probably the window seat. Tyler was in the aisle.
- 15 Q. Okay. And how about behind them?
- 16 A. Karen.
- 17 Q. Window or aisle?
- 18 A. Window.
- MR. RAYBURN: There's all the kids' names.
- 20 MR. KAMINSKI: They're not kids; they're adults.
- MS. RAMSEY: Yeah.
- MR. RAYBURN: What?
- 23 MR. KAMINSKI: They're not kids; they're adults.
- MR. RAYBURN: Oh.
- 25 MR. KAMINSKI: Okay.

- 1 BY MR. KAMINSKI:
- 2 Q. And anyone behind Karen, or in the third row? We have one,
- 3 two, three --
- 4 A. Jimmy.
- 5 Q. -- four, five. We have two other people, seven. So that
- 6 would be the other two.
- 7 A. Jimmy, Jennifer.
- 8 MS. HARRISON: We need to see that.
- 9 MS. RAMSEY: Let me see --
- 10 MS. HARRISON: Chris and Tyler, that's it.
- MS. RAMSEY: Yeah, I don't think there was anybody --
- MR. KAMINSKI: In the third row on each side. Okay.
- 13 BY MR. KAMINSKI:
- 14 Q. And then who --
- 15 A. No, because Lamar usually sits back here, but I had just
- 16 dropped Lamar off.
- 17 Q. Right.
- 18 A. Yeah, I'm pretty sure Karen was right here. She might have
- 19 been in the third one, but I'm almost certain. She usually sits
- 20 | in the same seat. A lot of them like to sit in the same seat.
- 21 Q. Sure.
- 22 A. Very routine.
- 23 Q. Right. Okay. And then who is seated on the driver's side?
- 24 A. Jennifer.
- 25 Q. Jennifer?

1	A. And Jimmy was on the left side.
2	MR. KAMINSKI: Okay. Yeah. Anything else?
3	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you so much for sitting in
4	MR. RAYBURN: Yeah.
5	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm sorry, I was a few minutes late.
6	But we appreciate it greatly. I know this has been very, very
7	difficult for you and for everybody involved. It really helps us
8	make these types of vehicles safer for everybody. And so we can
9	appreciate how much this has taken its toll on everybody, but it
10	helps us tremendously. So thank you.
11	MR. KAMINSKI: Thank you very much.
12	(Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: HIGHWAY CRASH NEAR BELTON,

ANDERSON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

DECEMBER 17, 2019

Interview of Taylor Ramsey

ACCIDENT NO.: HWY20MH001

PLACE: Anderson, South Carolina

DATE: December 19, 2019

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.

Jeffrey Johnson Transcriber