UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Investigation of:

ON DECEMBER 22, 2022

ENGINE ROOM FIRE ABOARD THE STATEN ISLAND FERRY SANDY GROUND * NEAR STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK * Accident No.: DCA23FM010

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Interview of: KARIM EL GALLAD, Chief Engineer Staten Island Ferry Sandy Ground

Staten Island, NY

Thursday, February 9, 2023

APPEARANCES:

BRIAN YOUNG, Marine Accident Investigator National Transportation Safety Board

Chief Warrant Officer U.S. Coast Guard

DANIEL FITZGERALD, Esq. Freehill, Hogan & Mahar, LLP On behalf of New York City DOT/Staten Island Ferry

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1 INTERVIEW 2 (12:35 p.m.)3 CWO Good afternoon, this is Chief Warrant Officer 4 that's Today is February 9th, 2023, the time on deck is 12:35, and we are here at 5 6 the Staten Island Ferry St. George Terminal located on Staten 7 Island, New York, and we will begin with introductions. MR. FITZGERALD: Daniel Fitzgerald here with the law firm of 8 9 Freehill, Hogan & Mahar, here on behalf of New York City 10 DOT/Staten Island Ferry, party in interest. The spelling of my 11 last name is F-i-t-z-g-e-r-a-l-d. 12 MR. EL GALLAD: Good morning, my name is Karim El Gallad, 13 that's K-a-r-i-m, last name E-l G-a-l-l-a-d. I am a chief 14 engineer and port engineer, Staten Island Ferry. 15 MR. YOUNG: And this is Brian Young with the National 16 Transportation Safety Board. Y-o-u-n-g. 17 CWO All right, thank you, everyone. So now we 18 would like to proceed with the interview, but for the record you 19 do agree for us to record this interview? 2.0 MR. EL GALLAD: Sure. 21 INTERVIEW OF KARIM EL GALLAD 22 BY CWO 23 And could you begin with describing your personal maritime 24 experience? 25 I started in the industry as a house piper, I graduated from

- 1 | Piney Point SIU, Seafarers, Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship
- 2 | in 2003. I've been shipping deep sea since then. I got my
- 3 | license as third engineer in 2008 and continued shipping with
- 4 MEBA. I came to the ferry with a second or first license,
- 5 | unlimited horsepower motors, around 2013, September, and shortly
- $6 \parallel$ after converted over to my chief engineer limited license. I
- 7 worked here about a year as an oiler, a year. About 2014 moved up
- 8 to marine engineer. The following year I started working as chief
- 9 engineer and about a year later was port engineer here at the
- 10 || ferry.
- 11 | Q. Okay. And then just to verify, when you first were hired
- 12 onboard here with the Staten Island Ferry in 2013, you were hired
- 13 | as an oiler?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 \parallel Q. For one year and then moved on to a chief engineer?
- 16 A. Marine engineer for a year.
- 17 | Q. A marine engineer for a year.
- 18 | A. Yeah. And then right around early 2016 I moved up to chief
- 19 | engineer.
- 20 | 0. Around 2016?
- 21 | A. Yeah, sometime there in 2016.
- 22 $\|Q$. Okay. And you've also had a position as a port engineer?
- 23 | A. Yeah, port engineer and fuel storage supervisor.
- 24 \parallel Q. In regards to your time and experience onboard the *Ollis*-
- 25 class ferries, which ferry would you say you have more experience

- 1 on, the Sandy Ground or the Michael Ollis?
- 2 | A. I would say in general, I think we all -- the majority of
- 3 officers here have more experience with the Ollis class being that
- 4 | the Ollis ferry, being that it's been serviced the longest, the
- 5 | Sandy Ground is the newest arriving.
- 6 Q. Okay. Could you describe the training that you received in
- 7 order to prepare you to take your position onboard the Ollis-class
- 8 | vessels, the Sandy Ground and the Michael Ollis?
- 9 A. The training, I think my training was kind of broken up in
- 10 and out. For the most part we were covering, providing coverage
- 11 | for other crew members to get their training and -- but I tried to
- 12 | maximize my training there with Richie Rizzo and Michelle Mergollo
- 13 | (ph.) along with others who have been trained and, you know, doing
- 14 | my own tracing and reading and whatnot.
- 15 $\|Q$. What was the time frame, would you say, that was the total
- 16 | amount when you were in that training phase?
- 17 || A. I want to say somewhere between 3 and 4 days.
- 18 | Q. Did that training include an evaluation in the end, prior to
- 19 assuming your role as a chief engineer onboard?
- 20 A. I don't recall, no.
- 21 | Q. And do you recall if that training included the fuel oil
- 22 | transfer system and how to manage fuel levels and monitoring fuel
- 23 | levels?
- 24 A. I think that was one of the first things that we discussed,
- 25 | yes.

- Q. Could you --
- 2 A. That was probably one of the more important things for me,
- 3 was being familiar with the fuel system.
- 4 Q. Okay. At the end of the training did you feel confident that
- 5 the training was adequate for you to assume your position onboard?
- A. I was more comfortable every time I spent, I went on the boat more and more. Yeah.
- 8 Q. Could you describe your responsibilities and duties as a 9 chief engineer onboard the vessel?
- A. Yeah, just on that vessel, as with any vessel, the chief engineer is overall responsible as the engineering officer for the personnel onboard assigned to the boats, below-deck crew, to the
- 13 shipboard systems, you know, whether it's fuel or electrical or
- 14 propulsion or the safety of the crew members onboard, you know,
- 15 reporting to the captain from a general aspect.
- Q. On the *Ollis*-class vessels, how do you manage fuel monitoring and fuel leveling?
- 18 A. Fuel monitoring, we have a level, electronic levels on the
- 19 MPCMS screens, we have manual gauges outside the tanks, a magnetic
- 20 | float with red and orange and white gauges, and we have the
- 21 sounding and sounding charts, manually, which are mostly used for
- 22 taking on -- in preparation for bunkering. Managing is, you know,
- 23 | just keep the tanks level, keep the tanks full.
- 24 0. And how is that done?
- 25 A. That's done through the use of a fuel purifier which takes

- 1 suction from the fuel oil storage tank and transfers it to the
- 2 \parallel fuel oil service tank, both service tanks, fore and aft or port
- 3 | and starboard, and -- yeah, that's pretty much it. For the most
- 4 | part, normal procedure is we use the fuel oil separater.
- $5 \parallel Q$. So if there was a situation to have to configure your fuel
- 6 manifold to level off your two tanks --
- 7 | A. Okay.
- 8 Q. -- what is that process?
- 9 A. To level off the tanks, we can -- we can use the fuel
- 10 purifier discharge to, you know, favor one tank or the other and
- 11 | if that's not working, we can always use the fuel return lines
- 12 | from the main engines and the generators and the boilers, at the
- 13 | tanks.
- 14 | O. What valves at the fuel manifold tank locations, what valves
- 15 are operated as part of the leveling process?
- 16 A. What valves are operated would be the purifier fill to the
- 17 service tanks or the fuel oil return to the service tanks.
- 18 $\|Q$. And when you say fuel oil return to the service tanks, is
- 19 | this the return lines coming from your engines --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 0. -- back to the service tanks?
- 22 | A. Yeah.
- 23 | Q. Do you assign anyone in particular to be responsible for the
- 24 | monitoring and the fuel operation?
- 25 A. Yeah, for the most part there's usually one of the oilers

- will monitor that. We all keep an eye on the levels, obviously, but yeah. Yes.
- Q. How is it determined which oiler is assigned for that or designated for that?

2.0

so we all know where we stand.

- A. I don't believe there's any particular -- I don't recall any particular method of assigning different people. If the guys are making an adjustment, it's usually communicated. Me, personally, I like -- I generally keep one screen on our fuel levels and then the other one on that boat we can have a scan, so we'll have that screen locked so if we get an alarm, the alarm will show up on the non-fuel screen, and then we can just browse through on a regular basis. I like to just communicate with the guys. If someone's going to make an adjustment, it's usually communicated back, just in case I'm out there and I decide I want to make an adjustment,
- Q. Is that consistent amongst your ships that you do, even on -- between like the *Sandy Ground* or the *Michael Ollis*, do you run the same type of a process?
 - A. I want to say yeah, I mean, it's -- I'm not assigned to that boat, either one of those boats or any other boat from a day-to-day basis. You know, I go on the boats as needed, you know, if we're just testing a boat to bring into service or if I'm needed for coverage on a boat, but I don't have, you know, a full day startup, you know what I mean? So again, I'm on the dock, I'm in the port office or the fuel facility and as -- so I'm not always

- 1 working with the same crew, I work with different crews. Like I
- 2 don't have my own below-deck crew.
- 3 | 0. I see.
- 4 | A. Yeah.
- 5 Q. Would you say the training that you received was the same for
- 6 the Sandy Ground as it was for the Michael Ollis?
- 7 | A. I don't know if I had -- I mean, I received training for the
- 8 class, I don't recall being given certain training for each boat,
- 9 I mean, the boats are -- for the most part, the designs would be
- 10 | identical.
- 11 | Q. And have you observed any differences with the fuel transfer
- 12 | systems between the two vessels?
- 13 | A. No. No.
- 14 | Q. You mentioned also fore and aft and port and starboard tanks.
- 15 || From your experience, what do they normally refer to as?
- 16 A. The port tank or the starboard tank.
- 17 $\|Q$. Okay. From what you've seen, have you noticed any confusion,
- 18 | maybe, or -- with the nomenclature and the labeling of the two
- 19 different sides?
- 20 | A. You know, whenever I'm in doubt, I like to just double-check
- 21 | myself. So if it's, you know -- so I know the general arrangement
- 22 | of the boat, I know which side is forward and which side is aft,
- 23 | you know, that's pretty much basic knowledge on a boat, it's like,
- 24 you know, one on one. The first day, the first thing you do is
- 25 | figure out the general knowledge and the layout. So for the most

- 1 part if I have to double-check myself, I'll double-check myself,
- 2 | which tank's which so I know which tank is -- the port tank is
- 3 | further aft, the starboard tank is forward by the MSD and if
- 4 | they're not, you know, set up a certain way on the screen or, you
- 5 know, like I know to double-check myself or, you know, just
- 6 | reference, you know, my locality.
- 7 \mathbb{Q} . Um-hum.
- 8 A. Yeah.
- 9 \mathbb{Q} . Like your --
- 10 A. My bearings.
- 11 | Q. Your bearings, okay.
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 | Q. Do you use nomenclature such as the New York end or the
- 14 | Staten Island end as part of how you, you know, describe the two
- 15 | different sides?
- 16 | A. In general on a vessel?
- 17 | O. Um-hum.
- 18 | A. That's pretty much the standard here.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 | A. We don't really say forward and aft, we say New York end -- I
- 21 | mean, the boat's a double-ended ferry, two bows, so I mean, it
- 22 | could go either way.
- 23 | Q. Okay.
- 24 $\mid A$. I would use the bow and the stern in relation to like a
- 25 | rudder, if we're trying to reference a rudder and we're under way,

- 1 | I would say well, it's the bow rudder or the stern, you know what
- 2 | I mean?
- $3 \mid Q$. I see.
- 4 A. Um-hum.
- 5 | Q. So depending on the type of equipment, perhaps, or your
- 6 | orientation with systems, you'll interchange the labeling or the
- 7 | nomenclature?
- 8 A. Um-hum.
- 9 Q. Okay. As far as the alarms for the fuel tanks, have you
- 10 observed low and high level alarms activate?
- 11 | A. Yeah, we've -- I've definitely observed low levels, maybe
- 12 prior to fueling the storage tanks, that's -- which is the low
- 13 | level is already set pretty high. And again, the boat holds a
- 14 | large capacity of fuel. So I mean, just experiencing a low level
- 15 | isn't really as alarming as it may sound.
- 16 | Q. Okay.
- 17 | | A. High levels, maybe a high level. I don't recall any specific
- 18 | moment where I might've experienced a high level alarm, but it
- 19 | wouldn't be uncommon if we were topping off or something and
- 20 | they're set pretty close to our normal top-off rate.
- 21 | Q. Would you say the tank level indicators are accurate in
- 22 | regards to what they are showing?
- 23 | A. I think they're accurate within a couple of hundred gallons,
- 24 | maybe.
- 25 | Q. Okay. So you haven't experienced any major issues with the

- 1 \parallel TLIs and any of the --
- 2 | A. No.
- 3 $\|Q$. -- level indicators? Okay. And then just in your --
- 4 A. Again, we have the flags to kind of, you know, double-check
- 5 | that, so you could kind of eyeball where the top of the tank is,
- 6 where the flag is on the tank, as compared to what you're reading
- 7 | in a numerical value and a gauge level value on a TLI.
- 8 Q. Okay. And these flags are for the service tanks, the levels
- 9 | in the service tanks?
- 10 | A. Yeah.
- 11 | Q. Okay. From what you know or, you know, may have heard, you
- 12 | know, in your opinion do you know what may have caused the fire on
- 13 | the Sandy Ground?
- 14 A. I don't know what, per se, caused the fire, but -- and I
- 15 | think my first thought or idea that came to my head is there's a
- 16 possibility with the fuel return lines.
- 17 CWO All right. So at this time I'd like to turn
- 18 | it over to Mr. Young.
- 19 BY MR. YOUNG:
- 20 | Q. Good afternoon, Chief, thank you for your time today. When
- 21 | it comes to your position with Staten Island ferries, would you
- 22 | say you're predominantly shoreside port engineer and occasionally
- 23 working on the vessels or is it somewhat split?
- 24 A. I'm on the vessels pretty much every day, but yeah, for the
- 25 most part I'm a port engineer on the dock, but my main job is to

- 1 | liaison or work with the boats and the crews, you know, so I'm
- 2 \parallel familiar with the daily work orders, the scheduling, the out-of-
- 3 service tie-ups for repairs, scheduling the fueling, helping out
- 4 with Coast Guard inspections, so I'm pretty fluent with the day-
- 5 | to-day operations. Troubleshooting, helping the guys troubleshoot
- 6 some stuff, yeah, that kind of thing.
- 7 | Q. Understood. But you also have the ability to pick up some
- 8 ships and work as the chief engineer, as well, right?
- 9 A. Absolutely.
- 10 Q. Okay. Did you receive the same training as the full-time
- 11 | chief engineers that crew the vessels?
- 12 | A. As the full-time? Probably not. Probably not, yeah.
- 13 | Q. And what was the extent of your training, was it being walked
- 14 | through the vessel and being walked through some of the operations
- 15 | and then being qualified?
- 16 | A. I was -- yeah, so I did, like I said, on average, 3 to 4
- 17 | days. I know two of them full days and then other than that, it
- 18 was, you know, catching startups, catching shutdowns, you know,
- 19 and then things in between throughout the day, popping in, seeing
- 20 | what's going on, trying to help figure out -- you know, it's a new
- 21 | boat. Even the guys that are training aren't a hundred -- you
- 22 | know, they did their best to kind of get a grasp and understand
- 23 | the systems and the design and the operation, but there's still
- 24 | stuff that, you know, we figure out as we go along. You know, we
- 25 didn't design these ships, we didn't build them, so every day

- 1 you're on the boat, it's a brand new boat and you're learning
 2 something new, you're -- you know, as long as you have your head
- 3 in the game, you're always learning something new.
- 4 Q. As these new experiences are coming through and you're
- 5 | learning more, say, lessons learned, how are these lessons learned
- 6 passed on to the operating crews?
- 7 | A. During training I think a lot of those were shared with the
- 8 | training officers and then their notes as they became finalized, I
- 9 think they made some amendments to them.
- 10 Q. And those amendments, how were they sent out to the fleet,
- 11 were they e-mailed or were they handed to people?
- 12 A. I think as they were working through their notes and they did
- 13 | their final, yeah, like -- yeah, they would just work them out and
- 14 either, I think, share it with the crew, give us hard copies or,
- 15 yeah, things of that nature. Yeah.
- 16 \parallel Q. And as a port engineer, were you involved at all at providing
- 17 | any input for the design of this newest class of ferry?
- 18 | A. No, no.
- 19 $\|Q$. When the vessels came out, we understand that the fuel return
- 20 | system wasn't initially built with these return ball valves in the
- 21 | system, they were added at a later date.
- 22 A. That's correct.
- 23 | Q. Do you know why that was -- do you know why that was done?
- 24 | A. I guess we needed a means to get a hold of the tank levels.
- 25 | Q. In your previous career with either SIU or MEBA, do you

- recall any other vessels that you worked on that controlled fuel levels using return valves or is this unique to this operation?
- 3 A. No, we always kept our fuel oil service tanks topped and
- 4 | filling over to the -- to the storage tanks or the -- well, not
- 5 the storage tanks, the day tanks, the settlers, you'd say.
- 6 \mathbb{Q} . So then the purifier on these other vessels would run
- 7 | continuously and overflow the residual fuel into like a storage
- 8 | tank or a settler, right?
- 9 A. Yes, yes, so we generally have the day settler and service
- 10 tanks and the service would just overflow into the settler.
- 11 | think that's how it's done industry-wide.
- 12 | Q. Do you know why this type of procedure isn't even operated
- 13 here? Is there a specific reason why you wouldn't do that here?
- 14 | A. I don't believe there is. I think it's just been practice to
- 15 | just kind of maintain levels, you know, accordingly, per -- you
- 16 know, for one thing, our operating or SMS procedure is to top off
- 17 at or below 90 percent, that may have something to do with it, we
- 18 | don't fill anything past 90 percent. So if I had to just shoot
- 19 | from the hip, I would say that's definitely got something to do
- 20 | with it.
- 21 | Q. Does each of the day tanks have sufficient capacity to
- 22 | provide fuel for, say, a day if you were only using one day tank?
- 23 | A. One day tank, probably not, but both, using both of them
- 24 | together, you could definitely get through a day and a half,
- 25 maybe. I think --

- 1 Q. Have you ever seen it where one day tank was being operated
- 2 | instead of both on the *Ollis*-class vessels?
- 3 A. I don't think we've had one day tank, no. No, we've always
- 4 used --
- 5 Q. And as -- go ahead, I'm sorry.
- 6 | A. I think we've always used the two. Yeah
- 7 \mathbb{Q} . As we understand, the system has the ability to be running
- 8 | two separate with the crossover valve being closed.
- 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 | Q. Have you ever seen that operating?
- 11 A. No. Like I'm aware of the valves and their location, but no,
- 12 | I've never -- I don't believe I've ever operated with them closed.
- 13 Usually day and storage tanks are open. Yeah, yeah.
- 14 | Q. And as a port engineer, you may have looked at some other
- 15 | fuel oil system drawings on some of the older-class vessels such
- 16 as the Molinari or the Barberi class.
- 17 A. I think on one of the -- on one occasion we had an
- 18 | obstruction in one of the fuel oil day tanks and we weren't able
- 19 | to get flow out of that tank. I can't remember exactly which
- 20 | tank. It probably was the *Ollis*, but I can't confirm. That may
- 21 | have been a situation where we -- for a brief period, probably
- 22 | even not knowing that it was obstructed running off the one tank.
- 23 Yeah.
- 24 | Q. And you were able to operate without any issues on one tank,
- 25 | even though it was brief?

- 1 | A. I'm just trying to remember when that was or -- I guess we
- 2 | had no choice, I mean, the valve was -- the line was obstructed,
- 3 so we were definitely operating off of one line. Yeah, I think we
- 4 | were having issues with the level at that time, maybe. I don't
- 5 | recall a hundred percent, but I know at some point we did for a
- 6 | very brief period until we actually found out, hey, there is a
- 7 problem, we were working through it and we found -- we found a rag
- 8 obstructing the line. Yeah.
- 9 | Q. So during that time the vessel was able to operate on one
- 10 | tank?
- 11 | A. Yeah.
- 12 | Q. Without any issues?
- 13 A. If I recall correctly, yes.
- 14 | Q. Okay. You know, with everything open like you typically have
- 15 || for the fuel supply to the engines and the generators and the
- 16 | boilers, at some point do you think that the two tanks would
- 17 | equalize --
- 18 | A. You would think. Absolutely, yeah, those are pretty big
- 19 | lines, they're about an inch and a half or 2 inch, the service
- 20 | tanks. Two inch, probably. Yeah. And yeah, you would expect
- 21 | them to equalize. Absolutely.
- 22 \parallel Q. Have you ever seen it where they actually do when the vessel
- 23 | is maybe sitting overnight, not running?
- 24 A. I couldn't pinpoint to any particular instance, no.
- 25 | Q. And maybe you've looked at some of the drawings of the older-

- 1 class vessels such as the *Molinari* and the *Barberi* and we had seen
- 2 | them and it looks like, in the return line, there's a relief valve
- 3 | built into those two systems.
- 4 | A. That's correct.
- $5 \parallel Q$. Do you have any reason why those two classes may have had
- 6 | that relief valve built into their system?
- 7 | A. I mean, they definitely put that in there as a safety measure
- 8 to ensure that there's constant flow back to at least one tank, so
- 9 we wouldn't end up with a situation where the system or the lines
- 10 over-pressurize. Yeah, definitely, in my opinion there's
- 11 definitely a valid reason why that valve is there.
- 12 $\|Q$. Do you know of any reason why it would not be included in a
- 13 | newest class vessel?
- 14 A. No, no, I don't know why one wasn't put in.
- 15 $\|Q$. Have you experienced any issues with being able to crew the
- 16 | vessels, with lack of people or lack of experienced people, have
- 17 | you had any issues?
- 18 | A. Yeah, yeah. Occasionally, more and more, maybe we have
- 19 | issues covering jobs and we -- you know, we make do with either,
- 20 | again, myself covering jobs or we -- if they can't get someone off
- 21 | the overtime or we tie up a vessel, reduce service, things within
- 22 | that nature.
- 23 | Q. How many port engineers are there in your group?
- 24 A. Three.
- 25 | Q. And do each of the three port engineers have the ability to

- l || work as a chief engineer on a vessel?
- 2 | A. Absolutely, we're all -- we all started here as chief
- 3 | engineers.
- 4 | Q. Okay.
- 5 | A. Yeah.
- 6 Q. Does your team do that frequently or is it rare?
- 7 || A. No, we do it frequently.
- 8 Q. And have you ever had an issue going onto one of the ferries
- 9 and with it being different classes and different setups or is it
- 10 | all kind of relayed back to you pretty quickly?
- 11 | A. No. No, in general, I don't have any issues. Again, I'm
- 12 | always on the boat, there's never really a long period of time
- 13 where I'm not on a boat. We have multiple vessels of the same
- 14 class, so even if one was away at a shipyard or something for a
- 15 | long time, we're still working on that class. So yeah, so --
- 16 yeah.
- So yeah, I don't have any problem, especially if I'm
- 18 | relieving a running crew, I probably take extra, extra precautions
- 19 | if I'm bringing a vessel into service and we're starting it up, as
- 20 poposed to having a live person turning over with me, you know, on
- 21 | a boat that's been running all day, then yeah, there's a
- 22 difference there.
- 23 | Q. Got it. And when you say starting up in the morning before
- 24 | the run starts, I understood you start all the engines and the
- 25 propulsion motors and everything, once you are across and say at

- the first stop of the day, do you keep the engines running or do
 you shut them down in between each stop?
- 3 A. It all depends on the time frame of the shutdown and whether
- 4 or not the equipment needs to be shut down, but there's no reason
- 5 | to just idle the main engine for hours on end, with the boat tied
- 6 up on lines. If we need work done on a main engine, then that
- 7 engine needs to shut down. Whether we need to change, you know, a
- 8 | filter or, you know, change a pump, you know, sometimes you just
- 9 have to shut down. You have guys working next to a shaft or
- 10 | whatnot.
- 11 | Q. Understood. But typically if you're just running back and
- 12 | forth, do you shut the engines down at every --
- 13 | A. No.
- 14 | Q. -- terminal?
- 15 | A. No, no.
- 16 | Q. You keep --
- 17 | A. Yeah.
- 18 \parallel Q. So you roll the engine for a few minutes and it would idle
- 19 | and then you would just get --
- 20 | A. Yeah, once we start up, we give power to the -- our startup
- 21 | checks are complete, we give -- transfer power to the wheelhouse
- 22 | that it's in their control if there's -- the only time I would
- 23 | ever shut down was when the captain was finished with engines and
- 24 | I would take the power back and shut down, unless for some
- 25 | incidence where there was an emergency or whatnot, where we needed

- to secure something and that would also be communicated with the captain.
- 3 Q. Understood. Okay, good. Now, when you do take over a watch,
- 4 | is there some sort of an SMS checklist or a watch changeover that
- 5 | you complete?
- 6 A. Yeah, there is. There's startup checklists and relief
- 7 | checklists, they're posted in every control room.
- 8 || Q. And it's required that you complete these at each watch
- 9 | changeover, correct?
- 10 | A. Yeah.
- MR. YOUNG: Thank you very much for your time today, I
- 12 | appreciate all your help.
- 13 MR. EL GALLAD: Thank you.
- 14 CWO And then I'd like to open it up to the room
- 15 | for any other questions or remarks.
- 16 (No response.)
- CWO All right. Do you have anything else, Chief,
- 18 | you would like to add or any remarks?
- 19 MR. EL GALLAD: No, I'm just looking forward to the
- 20 | investigation and the report, just to have more, you know, solid
- 21 answers to what exactly happened and where we stand.
- 22 CWO Okay.
- 23 MR. EL GALLAD: That's it.
- 24 CWO And would you be available for us to contact
- 25 | you at a later time if we had any further questions?

1	MR. EL GALLAD: Absolutely. I'm here generally Sunday
2	through Thursday and you guys can contact me any time.
3	CWO All right. So that concludes our interview,
4	the time on deck is 13:05.
5	(Whereupon, at 1:05 p.m., the interview concluded.)
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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: ENGINE ROOM FIRE ABOARD THE

STATEN ISLAND FERRY SANDY GROUND NEAR

STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK ON DECEMBER 22, 2022

Interview of Karim El Gallad

ACCIDENT NO.: DCA23FM010

PLACE: Staten Island, NY

DATE: February 9, 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.



David A. Martini Transcriber

Interview Errata Sandy Ground DCA23FM010

Interview of: Kasim Elgaliad
Position: Chief Enginees

PAGE NUMBER	LINE NUMBER	CURRENT WORDING	CORRECTED WORDING

If, to the best of your knowledge, no corrections are needed kindly circle the statement "no corrections needed" and initial in the space provided.

NO CORRECTIONS NEED.	
Rasim Elgallad	
Printed Name of Person providing the above information	1
Signature of Person providing the above information	
3/20/2023	