

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of: *

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NATURAL GAS BUILDING EXPLOSION & *

FIRE NEAR WEST READING, *

Accident No.: PLD23LR002

PENNSYLVANIA, ON MARCH 24, 2023 *

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Interview of: CHAD MOYER, Fire Chief
ANDY GUIDINAS, Lieutenant
West Reading Volunteer Fire Department

West Reading Volunteer
Fire Department
223 Playground Drive
West Reading, Pennsylvania

Tuesday,
April 4, 2023

APPEARANCES:

SHERYL HARLEY, Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board

I N D E X

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I N T E R V I E W

(2:18 p.m.)

1
2
3 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Good afternoon. My name is Sheryl
4 Harley. I'm an investigator with the National Transportation
5 Safety Board. Today is April 4th of 2023. It's 2:18 p.m. I'm
6 located at the West Reading Volunteer Fire Department located at
7 223 Playground Drive in West Reading, Pennsylvania.

8 And we are here today to talk about the explosion at the R.M.
9 Palmer Candy Company that occurred on the 24th at around --
10 somewhere around 4:50 p.m.

11 And, gentlemen, I'm going to ask you to identify yourselves
12 for the tape.

13 CHIEF MOYER: I'm Fire Chief Chad Moyer.

14 LT. GUIDINAS: And I'm Lieutenant Andy Guidinas.

INTERVIEW OF CHAD MOYER & ANDY GUIDINAS

15
16 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right. So, gentlemen, as we said
17 before, what I'd like you to do is kind of sort of walk me through
18 and you can do it one at a time, walk me through when the call
19 came out or when you first became aware of the incident and just
20 walk me through what you saw and what you did that day. Chief,
21 you want to start.

22 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah. So I was at Mama's Pizza getting some
23 dinner with my wife at Wyomissing when the call came out. We were
24 on our way to the bowling alley. So at that point, when I heard
25 some of the additional that was coming in, stopped eating, and I

1 started responding. Now, I had my wife's vehicle. So, I didn't
2 have lights and siren. So it took me some time to get to the
3 scene. So chronologically, this is going to be off a little bit
4 because Andy had arrived before me.

5 So once I arrived at the scene, there were already rescue
6 operations that had taken place. There was already fire
7 extinguishment operations that were taking place. I spoke briefly
8 with Andy about what he had because he was the first arriving
9 officer from West Reading. Spoke briefly about what he had done
10 or had going to that point, and then my biggest concern at that
11 point, I could still smell gas in the street. So my biggest
12 concern at that point was making sure that we had the gas secured
13 and if we also had gas building up in the remaining Palmer
14 Building.

15 At that point I believe I sent Andy -- and I forget who you
16 might have had with you.

17 LT. GUIDINAS: Bruce, Donna and Ashland (ph.) and the A team
18 crew.

19 CHIEF MOYER: To check on the conditions in Building 1 to
20 see, A, if they had gas and, B, if they had any fire that had
21 extended. They did report an odor to me, and they also reported
22 some fire that was -- I'll let him explain to you how it looked,
23 but he did report some fire in the basement to me.

24 Later, I talked to I believe it was Larry Moyer from the
25 City. He was the person who was communicating with UGI about

1 getting the utilities shut down. From what I understand from him,
2 they did initially shut two valves down, but that didn't
3 necessarily stop the gas release. So they had to go to secondary
4 valves at least on the one side, possibly both side to shut them
5 down. He didn't say that they gave him any problems at all
6 working with them. They seemed like they were working diligently
7 to get the gas shut off for us. At one point, they did report
8 that they did have it shut down, but it would, it would take a
9 little bit of time for the 3,000 feet of pipe they said to bleed
10 off the remaining gas.

11 So, while all that was going on, the West Reading Police
12 Department was working with Palmer staff to figure out how many
13 people they were missing. I didn't deal directly with the Palmer
14 staff. So I don't know how cooperative they were, but the police
15 did not make any comments that they were uncooperative or anything
16 like that.

17 They came back. There was some flux throughout the period
18 of, you know, rescue. There was a little bit of fluctuation.
19 Obviously it was a very chaotic event until they were figuring out
20 who they were missing. Some people had -- I believe there were
21 three people who went to the hospital, walking wounded, that were
22 transported by EMS. So there was some time until they were able
23 to figure out exactly how many people we were missing, but it was
24 eventually determined that it was eight.

25 MS. HARLEY: Okay. And, so just to clarify. When you got on

1 the scene, the fire in Building 2, Building 2 was still on fire.
2 Is that correct?

3 CHIEF MOYER: The rubble pile was still on fire, yes.

4 MS. HARLEY: Right. Okay. All right. Do you have some
5 sense of how long it took before they were able to -- before you
6 guys got the fire extinguished?

7 CHIEF MOYER: Without checking the recordings on the tape, I
8 don't know.

9 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

10 CHIEF MOYER: My timeframe for that evening is a little
11 evening it little bit skewed.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Not a problem. Lieutenant, what can you
13 tell me?

14 LT. GUIDINAS: So, much like Chad, we are volunteer. I was
15 at home when I heard the explosion. I live literally a block
16 away. I didn't know what it was, but I knew we were going
17 somewhere. So I got dressed, started heading down. By the time I
18 hit the street, the pagers had gone off, made it down here. I was
19 driver only on the apparatus. I know 79 and 85 run straight. I
20 was unaware at the time that the City was operating and had
21 already been on scene. When I had gone responding, I didn't get
22 additional. I think I was the only one not to get additional. So
23 I honestly didn't know exactly what I was going into until I
24 turned onto 2nd Avenue. And then as soon as I saw, I called for a
25 second alarm.

1 Ladder 79 was coming down Franklin Street. When we met at
2 the intersection, I flagged them to go through because I was
3 driver only, and I put their crew to work immediately with the
4 chief to work on rescue of the individual that they had found
5 trapped.

6 There were some folks that were walking wounded. Two victims
7 were laying on the pavement on the adjacent side across the
8 street. At that time, there was a strong odor of gas. We opened
9 up the man door like I had said on that, the A.D. [sic] Palmer,
10 and it was that thick that I had to close the door. It made my
11 eyes water, and then when Chad had asked later if there was an
12 odor of gas, it was still there but not nearly as bad as it was
13 previously.

14 CHIEF MOYER: Let me interject one thing that I saw in the
15 CAD was that Andy had called dispatch and asked them to have Met-
16 Ed shut the grid down.

17 LT. GUIDINAS: Yes. So they weren't sure if it was Med-Ed or
18 PP&L, but they asked if they could deliver a remote shutdown, and
19 I said -- well, obviously said yes. And I know the City had
20 already done it, prior to me asking for it, but I also asked for
21 UGI as well.

22 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

23 LT. GUIDINAS: Originally when I pulled up, the fire
24 conditions seemed manageable with a couple of master streams and
25 maybe some, you know, maybe a 2 1/2, 3 inch, just to keep it in

1 check, but that rapidly changed to the point where me and Clane
2 (ph.) and Finch went over the roof of the 5 story.

3 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

4 LT. GUIDINAS: I met up with Chief Moyer, and we kind of got
5 the game plan together that we'd set up a command post.
6 Originally it was going to be at 2nd and Penn to get kind of an
7 overview but that kind of migrated down to, you know, like Cherry
8 Street section so we could actually see the full area we were
9 working with. Again, by the time I got there, the building was
10 down to maybe a 15 foot pile of rubble.

11 As far as accountability, I had not made contact with anyone
12 from Palmer's. However, in the same account was the employees or
13 workers that we had come in contact with had a rough estimate of
14 10 people that were unaccounted for, and that's why I called for
15 the level 2 MCI. So 2 would be up to 10 patients. I figured 10
16 missing and go from there but obviously that was confirmed with
17 better guesstimates after the fact.

18 I asked for a drone right away from A team. They went en
19 route relatively quickly, and I asked to suspend rail traffic.

20 After that, it was just a matter of resources coming in,
21 waiting until we had sufficient manpower to really do anything
22 about it. The only thing I was mainly focused on was the rescue
23 that was taking place, well, what would be the D corner there, and
24 they were working hard on it.

25 CHIEF MOYER: But it was determined that there was

1 classified --

2 LT. GUIDINAS: There was one classified in the same vicinity,
3 yeah. That's kind of why I was hesitant to send those guys to
4 work right away because I thought it was the deceased they were
5 talking about, and when they said, no, the guy was underneath the
6 rubble and yelling, that I -- by all means, yes, we would go after
7 it. I had the -- Engine 42 was in next to arrive. I had them
8 stretch a long line and get the master stream off of Ladder 64 in
9 place to try and protect those guys. Up until that point, they
10 were operating without any hose lines in place.

11 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

12 LT. GUIDINAS: There's actually a photo floating around with
13 them starting to get that in place.

14 CHIEF MOYER: The City units had gone right to work rescuing
15 people in the apartment building.

16 LT. GUIDINAS: In the apartment building.

17 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

18 LT. GUIDINAS: So the apartment building attached to the
19 bank, former bank. Now, I guess it's a church,

20 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah.

21 LT. GUIDINAS: There were -- that was occupied. Half of that
22 was occupied. They, I think pulled five out of there, whether it
23 be walking wounded or off the aerial on ground matters. I
24 actually did the secondary in there to make sure it was clear.
25 That was after the fact though.

1 CHIEF MOYER: Because I believe the internal stairs were
2 damaged here --

3 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

4 CHIEF MOYER: -- and the fire escape was damaged --

5 LT. GUIDINAS: The fire escape was --

6 CHIEF MOYER: -- was blocked by rubble.

7 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah. As far as the 5 story, when I -- when
8 we first pulled up, so it was Ladder 79 and me right behind them,
9 there were still employees coming out of that man door which I
10 can't believe how they were doing it because I couldn't even look
11 in there for a second. It was thick.

12 MS. HARLEY: And that's the odor of gas.

13 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

14 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

15 LT. GUIDINAS: So after that, it was just until we got enough
16 resources and manpower to actually put kind of an effort into it.
17 I sent Ken Hurst (ph.), so Engine 69 and their chief and City
18 Engine 3 to the trolley side to start with master streams as well,
19 and trying to protect the guys in the rescue operation. In doing
20 so, they came across an employee that was in the building at the
21 time, and they were ambulatory. So I told them to direct them up
22 to the front of Ladder 79, and that who we used to get a
23 guesstimate headcount as to how many people were unaccounted for.

24 MS. HARLEY: Okay. There are a couple of things I want to
25 ask you. So they -- so you're saying they actually found an

1 employee still in the building.

2 LT. GUIDINAS: So they came across an employee. I can't say
3 for sure because it was just a radio transmission.

4 MS. HARLEY: Um-hum.

5 LT. GUIDINAS: But he came across an employee that said he
6 was in the building.

7 MS. HARLEY: Oh, okay. All right. Okay. He said he was in
8 the building.

9 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah. Now, there was multiple doors in that
10 side of the building they could have come out of.

11 MS. HARLEY: And what side are we looking at?

12 LT. GUIDINAS: So it would be --

13 CHIEF MOYER: You say the building. Are you about
14 Building --

15 LT. GUIDINAS: The 5 story.

16 CHIEF MOYER: -- 2? The 5 story.

17 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

18 MS. HARLEY: Yeah. Okay. And what side you said this was?

19 LT. GUIDINAS: So it would be the Charlie side of --

20 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

21 LT. GUIDINAS: -- Building 2. However, he was working in the
22 5 story which would have been, you know, that B side in the C
23 corner.

24 MS. HARLEY: Got it. I see. Okay. So one of the things we
25 talked previous about, and I was wondering if you could expand on

1 was the situation with the gas involving the rescuers and the
2 gentleman that was trapped under the rubble --

3 LT. GUIDINAS: Yes.

4 MS. HARLEY: -- in the alleyway of Cherry Street that
5 everyone calls it.

6 LT. GUIDINAS: Right, the Cherry Street alley.

7 MS. HARLEY: Yeah.

8 LT. GUIDINAS: So the reports that I got from the 79 crewmen
9 and their officer was that they were, they were literally with
10 hands and sledgehammers pulling stuff apart but I actually got
11 flash burn from a pocket of gas that ignited that was in the pile.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right. The other thing I wanted to
13 talk to you about is that when you did your secondary search of
14 the building, you said the 5-story building. Did --

15 LT. GUIDINAS: I actually did the primary on that as well.

16 MS. HARLEY: You did primary. So, I want to talk to you --
17 well, let's first talk about the -- while you were in the
18 basement, there was an issue with fire.

19 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah. So, initially the search crew had gone
20 in and said they had a strong odor, and they had reported that
21 there was fire in the basement. They didn't really specify as to
22 what. They just backed out because they had no safety line in
23 place. Once Chad and I did a face-to-face, I went to work and we
24 stretched a line down in the basement, and then we attempted to do
25 a primarily on all the floors. The captain from E Team started on

1 the first and worked up. We went down, because we knew we had the
2 line in place. When we went down, the interior stairs, there was
3 a service elevator, and then adjacent to it, like a mechanical --
4 what looked like to me like a mechanical limb, and that was the
5 chaseway between the two buildings underneath the street. We
6 encountered what looks like a gas fed fire coming through the
7 conduit from underneath the street that extended about 6 to 8 feet
8 into the building. At that point, we put a fog pattern in place
9 to kind of keep it in check. There was a bunch of us searching
10 the subdivision as we could, and I relayed that message to -- at
11 that point. They called command, and Jeff answered and told
12 anyone working above, you know, they had a fire below them. They
13 needed to be diligent of what they were doing.

14 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Awesome.

15 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah, Jeff was helping to catch messages
16 because I was trying to get the manpower pulled right in front of
17 Building 1 shifted down to the intersection of 2nd and Franklin.
18 So we all standing right there.

19 LT. GUIDINAS: And that as a bear, too.

20 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah, getting them to move back was --

21 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So I was wondering if you can now talk to
22 me about what I'm interested in, is the layout of the building of
23 the building you identified as the 5-story building, and
24 specifically as far as the ability of employees to egress, if
25 there was any choke points, that kind of situation.

1 LT. GUIDINAS: The only choke point that I would be aware of
2 was on the third -- I believe it was the third division on the --
3 what would be Delta side. And it was almost by design I guess.
4 It's a series of cabinets and machinery along a wall which created
5 about I would say maybe 2 foot space between the wall to make like
6 a walk point. It's not meant to be an egress point I would
7 imagine because there's wires and conduit and stuff going across
8 it, but that's what we had utilized going in with the engineers.
9 And even not under duress, we were kind of fumbling around in
10 there as well.

11 CHIEF MOYER: The engineers from the --

12 LT. GUIDINAS: From the USAR.

13 CHIEF MOYER: -- USAR, yeah.

14 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

15 LT. GUIDINAS: We were checking the structural integrity on
16 it.

17 MS. HARLEY: Did anybody from the SAR team take photographs
18 of the interior of that building?

19 LT. GUIDINAS: I don't believe so, but I cannot say for sure.
20 I know there were sketches. I know they had initially set up a
21 transit from across the street to check movement. That would have
22 been -- a contact for them is Joe Dishler. He's their lead.

23 MS. HARLEY: Can you spell his last name?

24 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah, D-i-s-h-l-e-r.

25 MS. HARLEY: L-e-r. Okay.

1 LT. GUIDINAS: And his engineer was with them. He would --
2 it was the two of those guys that would have been the ones, if
3 any, that would have taken photos.

4 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

5 LT. GUIDINAS: I mean obviously the Bravo side was
6 compromised, and he stayed out of that what I'd call an 8 foot bay
7 if you would, between the pillars and the supported system in the
8 area --

9 CHIEF MOYER: Area on the boardwalk.

10 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

11 MS. HARLEY: All right.

12 CHIEF MOYER: Something I don't think we've necessarily
13 talked about in this meeting today, too, was the fact that we
14 didn't recognize that there was structural damage to that north
15 wall --

16 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

17 CHIEF MOYER: -- and that working in that area was definitely
18 within the collapse zone.

19 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah. And was it 21? Is Jeremy 21 or 20?
20 Not that it matters, but Jeremy Searfoss almost immediately said
21 he would do safety, and there was radio traffic as well where we
22 were both looking at the 5 story, and he said it was compromised,
23 and that we needed to set up some kind of a collapse zone. But,
24 at that point, they were still working on rescue. So, yeah.

25 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

1 LT. GUIDINAS: While in the suppression phase, in the
2 basement, the commander radioed in and said that -- that's when
3 they said UGI had secured the gas, and we went down to get eyes on
4 it, and that's when the fire was noted to be out. We knocked
5 whatever class A materials that were burning and then we backed
6 out.

7 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

8 LT. GUIDINAS: One thing I didn't notice in -- was that Rehr
9 that did the report?

10 CHIEF MOYER: Rehr, Tommy Rehr.

11 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah. One thing I didn't note in there was
12 that there is radio traffic from the City side that said that they
13 did have fire coming from -- and I actually corrected myself on
14 this because I was asked about it earlier, and I thought they were
15 referring -- I didn't listen to any of the City side radio
16 traffic. I thought they were referring to my radio traffic
17 conveying that there was fire coming through the conduit
18 underneath the street.

19 MS. HARLEY: Um-hum.

20 LT. GUIDINAS: And I have to be corrected because he did say
21 that they had fire coming the pavement and the street.

22 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

23 CHIEF MOYER: Do you have, Sheryl, the City transmissions?
24 Were they included in that or was that only -- so we have county
25 radio and City radio.

1 MS. HARLEY: This is -- what I have is -- looks like county.

2 CHIEF MOYER: Okay. We can also get you City. My apologies.

3 LT. GUIDINAS: We actually started listening to it while we
4 were waiting.

5 CHIEF MOYER: I can get you a copy of that --

6 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

7 CHIEF MOYER: -- transcription also.

8 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

9 CHIEF MOYER: I thought that that was all included on the
10 same --

11 MS. HARLEY: Well -- so one of the things I'm going to do is
12 I'm going to need to kind of, next part, kind of clarify some
13 things that I was reading to make sure I understood that.

14 So you had -- let's see. So you had the collapsed building.

15 LT. GUIDINAS: Um-hum.

16 MS. HARLEY: You had the 5-story building which is --

17 LT. GUIDINAS: Um-hum.

18 MS. HARLEY: And then you also had the apartment.

19 LT. GUIDINAS: The apartments, yeah.

20 MS. HARLEY: Did anybody look at the building across from
21 where the --

22 CHIEF MOYER: So that it would have been -- what is that name
23 of that business? C&S.

24 MS. HARLEY: C&S.

25 CHIEF MOYER: So C&S, that was cleared by the -- actually I

1 know who did the primary and second search on there. It was Mike
2 Quintinski (ph.) from (indiscernible). Him and two of the
3 probationary firemen.

4 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

5 CHIEF MOYER: And that search came up negative.

6 LT. GUIDINAS: Yep.

7 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right. So, at this particular point,
8 and I need to kind of see if I understand this. You had Task
9 Force One. Is that also the search and rescue team or was that
10 separate?

11 CHIEF MOYER: So that was separate.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

13 CHIEF MOYER: That is a state resource. The Montgomery
14 County is a local resource from there, but obviously they cross-
15 train their members. They're also members of Task Force One. So
16 they work pretty much seamlessly once their transition came over.

17 MS. HARLEY: So the search and rescue is out of Montgomery
18 County.

19 CHIEF MOYER: Yes. And --

20 LT. GUIDINAS: -- search and rescue came from Boyertown.

21 CHIEF MOYER: And Boyertown Search and Rescue Company also.

22 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Boyertown collapse rescue. Okay. So one
23 of the things that I was looking at, I read through -- I guess I
24 was reading through the Berks County Radio and kind of trying to
25 get a feel of all the units that were on the scene. So, I was

1 wondering if you can kind of sorta help me out with numbers.

2 CHIEF MOYER: Um-hum.

3 MS. HARLEY: So, 79 is?

4 CHIEF MOYER: Wyomissing Fire Department.

5 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Let's see. I understand that Cumru was
6 on the scene. Is that correct?

7 CHIEF MOYER: Cumru Township?

8 MS. HARLEY: Yeah.

9 CHIEF MOYER: They were in 42.

10 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

11 CHIEF MOYER: Engine 85 was initially as well.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Are both of those the same --

13 CHIEF MOYER: Harris Township was Spring.

14 MS. HARLEY: Oh, that's Spring.

15 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah.

16 MS. HARLEY: Okay. This is 64.

17 CHIEF MOYER: Yes.

18 MS. HARLEY: Let's see. Then you have Reading City is
19 separate.

20 CHIEF MOYER: Is separate.

21 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Reading City is separate.

22 LT. GUIDINAS: And they actually -- so they would have been
23 on the second alarm. They actually self-dispatched.

24 CHIEF MOYER: They self-dispatched when they noticed the
25 incident which was completely okay.

1 MS. HARLEY: Yeah. I can understand that. So how -- where
2 is the Reading City Fire Department from here, their station?

3 LT. GUIDINAS: So it's across the Penn Street Bridge and
4 that's the City of Reading.

5 CHIEF MOYER: Both of those units came from the station on --

6 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah, 3rd and Franklin.

7 CHIEF MOYER: -- 3rd and Franklin. So literally -- probably
8 the same distance from here actually.

9 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

10 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right. So who else was on the scene?

11 LT. GUIDINAS: As far as?

12 MS. HARLEY: Apparatus. So we have -- through the whole
13 incident. I'm trying to get a sense of --

14 LT. GUIDINAS: So the City units were first. That would have
15 been Ladder 1 from the City was the first arriving apparatus and
16 their chiefs.

17 MS. HARLEY: Okay. The chief numbers start with what?

18 LT. GUIDINAS: 1.

19 CHIEF MOYER: They use cars.

20 LT. GUIDINAS: They use car 1.

21 CHIEF MOYER: Car 2.

22 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So they're all -- so all their chiefs
23 would be under the cars.

24 MS. HARLEY: Um-hum.

25 CHIEF MOYER: Car, yeah.

1 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

2 CHIEF MOYER: After that --

3 MS. HARLEY: Okay. We know we had -- let's see. You said
4 that you sent a drone from A Team. Who is A team?

5 LT. GUIDINAS: Western Berks Fire Department.

6 MS. HARLEY: Okay. A Team is Western Berks, Western Berks.
7 Okay.

8 LT. GUIDINAS: Engine 69 which is Ken Hurst, they're in the
9 initial.

10 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Ken Hurst. Okay.

11 CHIEF MOYER: That structure assignment would contain Company
12 25 which is Exeter. They would have been the designated RIT
13 initially.

14 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

15 CHIEF MOYER: They brought a tower in.

16 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

17 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah, they brought a tower in.

18 MS. HARLEY: All right. Okay.

19 CHIEF MOYER: And let's see. The Mag (ph.) 2, the incident
20 paperwork, Exeter brought the tower to the incident.

21 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

22 CHIEF MOYER: The Mag 2.

23 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So let's see. From your, from your
24 station, you had which pieces?

25 CHIEF MOYER: I had the ladder.

1 MS. HARLEY: You had the ladder.

2 CHIEF MOYER: Yep.

3 MS. HARLEY: And then, of course, the chief officers. Okay.

4 CHIEF MOYER: And then our engine was there --

5 MS. HARLEY: Engine.

6 CHIEF MOYER: -- initially and the rescue was there, and even

7 the --

8 LT. GUIDINAS: We brought the utility --

9 CHIEF MOYER: -- pickup truck was there.

10 MS. HARLEY: Okay. And the utility.

11 CHIEF MOYER: All of our stuff was there, yeah, eventually.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So I'm going to go through this. I saw

13 -- who's Rescue 1?

14 LT. GUIDINAS: That's the City Rescue 1.

15 CHIEF MOYER: City Rescue 1.

16 MS. HARLEY: That's City. 2, is there -- or 3. I'm trying

17 to remember.

18 LT. GUIDINAS: Engine 3.

19 CHIEF MOYER: There's an Engine 3.

20 LT. GUIDINAS: I detailed the Charlie side with Engine 69.

21 MS. HARLEY: And they are?

22 LT. GUIDINAS: They're City.

23 MS. HARLEY: They're a City unit also?

24 LT. GUIDINAS: Um-hum.

25 MS. HARLEY: Is there a Rescue 5? Okay.

1 CHIEF MOYER: Engine 36.

2 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

3 CHIEF MOYER: And Engine 55.

4 MS. HARLEY: 55 I think is what I'm looking at.

5 CHIEF MOYER: 55, that's Greenfield's.

6 LT. GUIDINAS: Their engine was dispatched to Candlewood
7 Suites for the fire alarm.

8 CHIEF MOYER: Right.

9 LT. GUIDINAS: And self-dispatched down here after the fact.

10 MS. HARLEY: Okay. And 36 was who?

11 CHIEF MOYER: Shillington.

12 MS. HARLEY: Shillington. Okay. All right. So on -- just
13 to kind of get a sense of how Berks County actually dispatches.
14 So the dispatcher, all of you are basically on -- I guess I'm
15 going to ask you. How does it work here?

16 CHIEF MOYER: I can get you the actual run part if you'd like
17 to see it.

18 MS. HARLEY: Yeah, because I've got, I've got some of it from
19 dispatcher which actually shows which units are in service and all
20 of that. So, it's not necessarily mutual aid. You guys --

21 LT. GUIDINAS: Automatic --

22 MS. HARLEY: -- actually are automatically --

23 CHIEF MOYER: Automatically, yeah.

24 MS. HARLEY: Okay. That's what I'm -- okay. Got it.

25 CHIEF MOYER: And then, you know, the trigger points would be

1 pulling the additional alarms.

2 MS. HARLEY: Right.

3 CHIEF MOYER: So the second alarm, the third alarm.

4 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

5 LT. GUIDINAS: And then I added an additional two companies
6 for manpower --

7 CHIEF MOYER: From the fourth alarm.

8 LT. GUIDINAS: -- from the fourth alarm assigned but they had
9 already been on the scene because they were the ones that would
10 have been dispatched to Candlewood.

11 CHIEF MOYER: Candlewood, right.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right.

13 CHIEF MOYER: Would you like me to get you those records now
14 or when we're finished?

15 MS. HARLEY: Yeah, when we finish, I would love that. So,
16 this may be a difficult question. At one point, do you think that
17 you no longer detected the gas?

18 LT. GUIDINAS: I know when I didn't. After we shut it down
19 -- when I got the report from command saying that it was shut
20 down, to check on the progression of the fire in the basement,
21 when it was out, it burned off pretty much everything.

22 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah.

23 LT. GUIDINAS: There was a very, very, very minimal odor
24 after that.

25 CHIEF MOYER: When I got the initial confirmation from Larry

1 Moyer that they had it off, but there would be, you know, 3,000
2 feet of pipe that had to bleed off. I still smelled it at that
3 point, but it was, you know, it was shortly or a little bit after
4 that I stopped smelling it or that I recall stopped smelling it.

5 MS. HARLEY: Do you know if anybody in the apartment of the
6 building complained about smelling gas?

7 LT. GUIDINAS: That we -- I personally and I don't think you
8 were able to either, that -- we didn't see any of those
9 individuals. The ladder company from the City actually extracted
10 all of them before or while we were showing up.

11 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah, I can tell you that that entire day and
12 even before that day, we didn't receive 911 calls for any kind of
13 odors in the area or in the structure.

14 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right.

15 LT. GUIDINAS: We actually looked back. The last one we had
16 was --

17 CHIEF MOYER: I pulled --

18 (Crosstalk)

19 LT. GUIDINAS: -- Street, and it was completely unrelated.

20 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah, I pulled everything I had for Rachel up
21 for 2022 to current, and there were a couple of calls in there but
22 none of them were for any kind of natural gas odors.

23 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

24 CHIEF MOYER: One was a piece of machinery that
25 malfunctioned, just a little bit of an electrical malfunction. It

1 sparked a little bit. They shut it down. That was the end of it.
2 They had between that Building 1 and Building 2, they have a
3 chocolate transmission tube. It's a stainless steel tube, but it
4 would pump chocolate from storage tanks over into Building 1.

5 MS. HARLEY: Right.

6 CHIEF MOYER: Those were wrapped in like a heat tape, like
7 you would see like for keep your roofs and pipes from freezing.

8 MS. HARLEY: Um-hum.

9 CHIEF MOYER: And then they had insulation with the heat tape
10 and all that to keep the chocolate liquefied as it was being
11 pumped from one building to the other building.

12 MS. HARLEY: Right.

13 CHIEF MOYER: One of those heat tapes shorted out or
14 malfunctioned which caused a little bit of singeing of the
15 insulation that set off the automatic fire alarm system. So by
16 the time we had arrived, they had already had the power shut off
17 to the tape, acknowledged that they were going to make repairs to
18 it, and then we just had to make sure that none of the insulation
19 was still burning in there which it was not.

20 MS. HARLEY: So, the -- so they -- you have the chocolate
21 pipes that travel from the two buildings, from the big building to
22 the smaller building.

23 CHIEF MOYER: I think it's actually the other direction.

24 MS. HARLEY: The other direction.

25 CHIEF MOYER: From the small building to --

1 MS. HARLEY: From the small building to the big building,
2 okay. And those pipes are in some kind of a conduit.

3 CHIEF MOYER: Correct.

4 MS. HARLEY: Okay. And in that conduit is -- the pipes are
5 wrapper in heat tape.

6 CHIEF MOYER: Um-hum.

7 MS. HARLEY: And then the conduct is also insulated -- has
8 insulation in it.

9 CHIEF MOYER: Yes, some sort of fiber insulation is in there.

10 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right. And then how long ago did
11 this occur?

12 CHIEF MOYER: That call was in June of --

13 LT. GUIDINAS: Last year.

14 CHIEF MOYER: -- I think it was June of 2022.

15 MS. HARLEY: June of 2022.

16 CHIEF MOYER: The machinery malfunction and that incident
17 were like within the same week I believe. It was like June 6th
18 and June 10th. I don't want to misquote that -- the exact date.

19 LT. GUIDINAS: But from then until now --

20 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

21 CHIEF MOYER: I sent both of those reports to Rachel.

22 MS. HARLEY: Right. And where was the machine located that
23 malfunctioned?

24 CHIEF MOYER: It was the third floor.

25 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

1 MS. HARLEY: It was on the third floor. Okay. All right.
2 Okay. So, then there was an issue with the heat tape and what did
3 they say happened with heat tape?

4 CHIEF MOYER: It shorted.

5 MS. HARLEY: It short --

6 CHIEF MOYER: It shorted out. They believed it was due to
7 the -- if I remember correctly, when I spoke to them that day,
8 they said they believed it was due to the age of the heat tape,
9 and that they needed to be replaced over time.

10 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

11 CHIEF MOYER: And that they were, you know, were -- I guess
12 they had plans already to replace them because they made it sound
13 like had spares --

14 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

15 CHIEF MOYER: -- spares onsite, and they were going to be
16 working on getting it replaced.

17 MS. HARLEY: Okay. And, at that particular point, the
18 company maintenance personnel --

19 CHIEF MOYER: Um-hum.

20 MS. HARLEY: -- were -- took over from that point on.

21 CHIEF MOYER: Um-hum.

22 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

23 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah, once we made sure there was no, you know,
24 carbon monoxide and that the fire -- the little bit of smoldering
25 -- I don't want to say fire, because it was just kind of arching

1 and smoldering, but that the smoldering of the insulation was
2 out --

3 MS. HARLEY: All right.

4 CHIEF MOYER: -- we turned it over. And, of course, power
5 disconnected to the tape itself. But they already -- but like I
6 said, they already had that power disconnected before our arrival.

7 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right. Are those the only two
8 incidents that you can think of that you responded to at Palmer?

9 LT. GUIDINAS: I mean over the years we've been there a
10 couple of times.

11 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah, I mean -- yeah. So I think there might
12 have been another one that I sent to Rachel but I don't recall.
13 It might have just been an automatic fire alarm and it give us a
14 false alarm if I remember correctly.

15 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right.

16 CHIEF MOYER: But we have all -- I can look back as far as
17 you would like to pull records. It's something we had there
18 but I --

19 MS. HARLEY: Yeah, but nothing --

20 CHIEF MOYER: We've had AFAs over the period of time there
21 but I can't -- honestly I can't remember, I can't remember one
22 that involved an odor of natural gas.

23 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Let's see. I just want to check. I
24 wanted to ask you, Larry Moyer is --

25 CHIEF MOYER: He is a deputy chief of the City.

1 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

2 CHIEF MOYER: His car --

3 MS. HARLEY: Chief.

4 CHIEF MOYER: I'll give you what car number he has in second.

5 MS. HARLEY: And the other thing is that -- so UGI was able
6 to shut down two valves, but that wasn't enough to shut down the
7 gas. So they had to go to a -- to the second --

8 LT. GUIDINAS: Correct. One or two more secondary. I'm not
9 sure.

10 MS. HARLEY: And do you have any idea or sense of the
11 approximate area where these secondary valves were at?

12 CHIEF MOYER: No. And you might be able to figure that out.

13 LT. GUIDINAS: I believe the one was up at 3rd and Penn if
14 recall correctly from what I was told that night.

15 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right.

16 CHIEF MOYER: Is that the one they had to cut out to get to?

17 LT. GUIDINAS: Well, after they -- so after they had gotten
18 the gas shut down, then they started an operation where they were
19 trying to isolate the section that fed us. So they were making --
20 they were digging and making cuts and capping in that area so that
21 they could get the rest of that area turned on. I don't know any
22 more. I'm not sure how their layout actually is down there. So I
23 don't know what that entailed, but I know that they were making an
24 attempt to get the rest of the gas turned back on to the area.
25 So.

1 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

2 CHIEF MOYER: Car 5 is Larry Moyer.

3 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Car 5. All right. So let's see. We've
4 identified who -- the drone and 18 is in -- oh, when did the fire
5 marshal arrive on the scene? Do you have any idea?

6 LT. GUIDINAS: The state police fire marshal or our --

7 MS. HARLEY: Yours.

8 CHIEF MOYER: So, yeah. So there were a couple different
9 fire marshals on the scene.

10 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

11 CHIEF MOYER: The City fire marshal arrived, and he was the
12 one that took safety. He was the one, Jeremy Searfoss, that
13 Andrew had mentioned took safety.

14 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

15 CHIEF MOYER: As far as when -- so Troy Hatt and -- Troy Hatt
16 works for Spring Township.

17 MS. HARLEY: Right.

18 CHIEF MOYER: So he helps us with fire marshal services and
19 then our internal fire marshal is Mark Burkholder but he didn't --
20 he -- Troy definitely arrived before he did. And then very early
21 on --

22 LT. GUIDINAS: -- operating the aerial anyway.

23 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah, yeah, he operated the aerial. And then
24 at some point, Cory from PSP arrived, and Cory -- once Cory and
25 Troy had arrived, they kind of had conversations on their own

1 about going about their business. I'm not sure exactly what time
2 that was.

3 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So how does that work that you had the
4 multiple fire marshals on the scene?

5 LT. GUIDINAS: So Searfoss was just kind of happenstance. He
6 came over with the assignment and offered services just to like
7 for operations. So as far as the fire marshal for the Borough,
8 Troy was contacted from Spring Township.

9 CHIEF MOYER: Spring, right. It's kind of a mix. So Mark is
10 our fire marshal and will go on smaller stuff, smaller stuff.
11 He'll do cause and origin and stuff like that, but the bigger
12 stuff we still rely on either Troy or PSP.

13 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

14 CHIEF MOYER: We kind of use whoever's available. So whether
15 it be Troy or PSP or we've even called Jeremy Searfoss from the
16 City if we couldn't get ahold of one of the other entities. We
17 kind of use whichever one of the three of them is available and is
18 prepared to take the lead if it gets bigger than what we could
19 handle with just our own internal.

20 MS. HARLEY: Got it. Understood. Okay. So, you had -- when
21 you arrived on the scene, you had the rescue operations for the
22 individual that was trapped on -- in Cherry --

23 LT. GUIDINAS: In the alleyway, yes.

24 MS. HARLEY: -- in the alleyway. Talk to me about the rescue
25 operation of the female that was under the rubble?

1 LT. GUIDINAS: So that was later on after the Mont Co search
2 and rescue team showed up. Chad detailed me as their liaison for
3 fire service.

4 MS. HARLEY: Um-hum.

5 LT. GUIDINAS: They made access off of Penn Avenue. They
6 come at a fence down and utilized ground ladders to get in the
7 operation. For their paperwork, just to make easy for their crews
8 working, that was what they considered the A side.

9 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

10 LT. GUIDINAS: So they contradict what the fire department's
11 response has.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Got it.

13 LT. GUIDINAS: But from there, they utilized the search dogs.
14 They had -- like I said, they had the structural engineer and a
15 med spec. There were dogs with them. They operated -- they
16 basically did a grid search, the best they could for the outlying
17 areas and all the vehicles. And then once they cleared all that,
18 they started sending -- checking void spaces and shoring and
19 getting into wherever they could without, you know, without the
20 heavy equipment.

21 From what I understand, I had a conversation with the med
22 spec that was actually the one that found her. It was like a
23 dock. She was found kind of by happenstance. The dog hit. So --
24 alerted, and he and everyone else believed that it was from the
25 deceased that they had found that was roughly 4 feet down. He

1 actually dropped one of his tools. It slid down a concrete slab
2 and landed on something what he said sounded hollow.

3 So he went down to check that out and retrieve his equipment
4 and found an area that was opaque where he could look through. He
5 doesn't know if it was Plexiglas or whatever it might have been he
6 saw that the -- he could look about 15 feet below him, and noticed
7 that there was water -- he knew there was water in there because
8 he saw a garbage can floating in the basement.

9 So he punched that out, stuck his head down, yelled out once,
10 didn't really hear anything. He actually lowered himself in
11 there, and called for the 10 second all quiet. They shut, you
12 know, generators down, equipment off, and that's when he noticed
13 very recognizable that it was her yelling out for help. And then
14 immediately went into her rescue operation.

15 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

16 LT. GUIDINAS: I know they utilized a lot of our cribbing off
17 the rescues, hand tools, saws, aerial extricate out and then
18 extricate up to ground ladders onto Penn Avenue to get her to EMS.

19 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right.

20 CHIEF MOYER: And then kind of while that was going on,
21 Empire was working on getting equipment brought in. The Borough
22 crew had brought up their backhoe and kind of working in
23 conjunction with the Boyertown rescue guys, they were working on
24 the Second Avenue side. They cleared out the rubble that was in
25 the street, and then slowly started removing that so they could

1 get closer to the building and try to search for some voids. And
2 then once beyond the curb line, the curb line at that point was
3 kind of where that rescue operation kind of held up because of the
4 condition of that wall. At that point, I don't know that we had
5 the engineers in there to see what the condition was, even though
6 the condition was still -- it was poor for the wall structure.

7 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So who was responsible for removing the
8 deceased victims?

9 LT. GUIDINAS: Well, ultimately it was the search and rescue
10 crews. They're specialized to do so, and then the fire department
11 support personnel wherever needed.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So, was it --

13 CHIEF MOYER: They were working on conjunction with the, with
14 the excavator.

15 LT. GUIDINAS: Yes.

16 CHIEF MOYER: -- with the grapple bucket.

17 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

18 CHIEF MOYER: A lot of, a lot of debris had to be moved in
19 most cases.

20 LT. GUIDINAS: A significant amount of debris.

21 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Do you know when the last victim was
22 removed from the building?

23 CHIEF MOYER: That would be on the EMS timeline because they
24 documented on the EMS side and the fire marshal also has that
25 information, too.

1 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

2 LT. GUIDINAS: I could give you about the time if --

3 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Yeah, just an average.

4 LT. GUIDINAS: But it would have been 1802 because Brad was
5 there and took a picture of us. There was some scuttlebutt about
6 us sticking around to get all the remaining people out when people
7 thought that they weren't found.

8 MS. HARLEY: Um-hum.

9 LT. GUIDINAS: So he felt behooved to take the picture of
10 everyone actually finishing up.

11 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

12 LT. GUIDINAS: And he actually met you.

13 CHIEF MOYER: What day was that? And that was -- like the
14 days all run together. That was --

15 LT. GUIDINAS: That would have been Sunday.

16 CHIEF MOYER: -- Sunday night.

17 LT. GUIDINAS: 1800.

18 CHIEF MOYER: Right.

19 MS. HARLEY: Sunday at 1800. Okay. All right. Okay.

20 CHIEF MOYER: All of the removals were either documented by
21 the USAR teams or by the state police fire marshal or a
22 combination of both.

23 LT. GUIDINAS: Probably both.

24 MS. HARLEY: Yeah.

25 CHIEF MOYER: There were some times when the fire marshals

1 would leave in the evening where we would continue to work. Those
2 were documented by the rescue teams.

3 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

4 LT. GUIDINAS: But all the photographs that were taken of the
5 deceased at the time they were found and when they were removed
6 are also time stamped.

7 MS. HARLEY: Great. Okay. So lastly, I always ask this
8 question at the end. Is there anything you think I should have
9 asked you and failed to ask you about the incident?

10 CHIEF MOYER: I don't really believe so. I mean I think that
11 all of the factors besides, you know, what caused the explosion,
12 and we have no idea what caused the explosion. But, I mean all of
13 the factors after the explosion, I feel like you covered.

14 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

15 MS. HARLEY: I did forget to ask you something, a couple
16 things. Was the fire alarm activated in the large building?

17 LT. GUIDINAS: The flash (indiscernible) was active when I
18 pulled up, yeah.

19 MS. HARLEY: Okay. Was the sprinkler system activated?

20 LT. GUIDINAS: So, yes. However, we found out almost
21 immediately that the riser going to the upper floors was sheared
22 off. So there was no suppression above Division 2.

23 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

24 LT. GUIDINAS: But it was (indiscernible).

25 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah. When I arrived, the power was off. So

1 that --

2 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah.

3 CHIEF MOYER: -- the alarms were not sounding when I arrived.

4 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

5 CHIEF MOYER: They were initially.

6 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So, above the second floor. Okay.

7 LT. GUIDINAS: Where the floor shifted is probably the worst
8 possible place it could have been because that's where the riser
9 went up through.

10 MS. HARLEY: Got it.

11 CHIEF MOYER: It was also -- so we realized -- so we realized
12 that there was free flowing water in that building and then we
13 also got word from the search and rescue teams that in the
14 exploded building, that there was also water flowing in there from
15 pipes. Public Works worked on getting some things shut down in
16 that way. I'm not sure when that exactly occurred. I was very
17 reluctant to turn any kind of water off especially to Building 1
18 until we knew for sure that there was no extension.

19 MS. HARLEY: Gotcha.

20 CHIEF MOYER: So it was definitely a little bit later on
21 until we could confirm that there was no extension, and then
22 Public Works was able to start shutting down some water that we
23 were able to stop it from flowing where we didn't need it.

24 LT. GUIDINAS: I mean they did say by the time that they made
25 extrication of the female that was extricated from Building 2,

1 that the water was in some places almost chest high in the
2 basement.

3 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So, I'm going to leave you both my card.
4 If you think of anything, even no matter how minor you think it
5 is, please feel free to reach out and give me a call.

6 CHIEF MOYER: I would -- I'm sure you were going to. You do
7 your due diligence but definitely the guys from Wyomissing --

8 MS. HARLEY: Um-hum.

9 CHIEF MOYER: -- they were operating when they were trying to
10 make rescue, the individual that we first saw.

11 MS. HARLEY: Um-hum.

12 CHIEF MOYER: But they're the ones that noticed the pockets
13 of gas were igniting. So that would probably be --

14 MS. HARLEY: Yeah.

15 CHIEF MOYER: -- worth --

16 LT. GUIDINAS: And they had more sets of eyes, you know.

17 MS. HARLEY: Yeah.

18 CHIEF MOYER: And the Chief Stoudt was the one that said
19 about --

20 LT. GUIDINAS: Yeah, Chief Stoudt said --

21 CHIEF MOYER: So James Stoudt who is the chief of the City,
22 he was the one who made the transmission that there was the fire
23 under the sidewalk.

24 LT. GUIDINAS: He was the one who made the transmission that
25 the fire was coming from the sidewalk in the street.

1 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

2 LT. GUIDINAS: Which I was, which I misunderstood. I thought
3 they were asking about my transmission about it coming from
4 underneath the street through the conduit, and I was wrong. But
5 he -- and I didn't hear because they were operating on the City
6 frequency.

7 MS. HARLEY: So Chief Stoudt, he said that the fire was under
8 the sidewalk.

9 LT. GUIDINAS: I mean we can --

10 CHIEF MOYER: He had a radio transmission.

11 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

12 CHIEF MOYER: Let me see if I can figure it out.

13 MS. HARLEY: Okay. So, I'm going to --

14 CHIEF MOYER: Yeah, it was from City Car 1 at 5:12:49 p.m.

15 MS. HARLEY: Car 1 at 5:12:49?

16 CHIEF MOYER: 5:12:49, yep.

17 MS. HARLEY: Okay. 17:12:49.

18 CHIEF MOYER: I'm sorry, yes, 17:12:49.

19 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

20 CHIEF MOYER: On Reading Fire Ops 1, car 1.

21 (Playing radio transmission.)

22 MS. HARLEY: Okay. All right.

23 CHIEF MOYER: I don't know if you have talked to Chief Stoudt
24 but I mean he --

25 MS. HARLEY: Yeah.

1 CHIEF MOYER: -- he can definitely get you the transmission
2 from the City side also.

3 MS. HARLEY: Right, and I think that's ultimately what I'm
4 going to need to do, and I definitely need to talk to the
5 gentleman from -- the firefighters that were there from
6 Wyomissing --

7 CHIEF MOYER: Wyomissing.

8 MS. HARLEY: -- when that, when that secondary gas ignited.

9 CHIEF MOYER: I don't remember who I forwarded what to now.
10 I don't remember -- I forwarded all of that to either you or
11 Rachel.

12 MS. HARLEY: Okay.

13 CHIEF MOYER: One of the two of you have that.

14 MS. HARLEY: All right. We appreciate it.

15 CHIEF MOYER: And all of their email addresses.

16 MS. HARLEY: Yes, I got them all.

17 CHIEF MOYER: Okay.

18 MS. HARLEY: So. Okay. So at this particular point, I think
19 we're done with this, and again if you can think of anything else,
20 I'd certainly appreciate it. And we will be in touch, and I will
21 -- like I said, I will provide you with a copy of the transcripts.
22 All right. I guess we're going to end it at 3:09 p.m.

23 (Whereupon, at 3:09 p.m., the interview was concluded.)
24
25

CERTIFICATE

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


IN THE MATTER OF: NATURAL GAS BUILDING EXPLOSION &
 FIRE NEAR WEST READING,
 PENNSYLVANIA, ON MARCH 24, 2023
 Interview of Chad Moyer & Andy Guidinas
 West Reading Volunteer Fire Department

ACCIDENT NO.: PLD23LR002

PLACE: West Reading, Pennsylvania

DATE: April 4, 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.


Kathryn A. Mirfin
Transcriber