

I, Mehael Tick, have read the foregoing pages of a copy of my interview that was held on June 28, 2022. These pages constitute a true and accurate transcription of same with the exception of the following amendments, additions, deletions or corrections:

	PAGE NO:	LINE NO:	CHANGE AND REASON FOR CHANGE	
PGI	Cover - Op	ening box	Mendon Missouri NOT Mississippi	
		om of Appear		m
	5	8-9	DIVISION 17 NOT DIVISION CENTER TE	am
	6	15	7:28 NOT except 28	
	7	9	amps NOT Ears	
	9	11	Should be a comma after emergence	=/
	9	14	Should be a comma after emergent toned not turned	
		and the first section of the section	y statements and that it is true and correct subject to any stance entered here.	
	Date: 8-16	-2022	Witness:	

Polof2



I, Michael Tock, have read the foregoing pages of a copy of my interview that was held on June 28, 2022. These pages constitute a true and accurate transcription of same with the exception of the following amendments, additions, deletions or corrections:

PAGE NO:	LINE NO:	CHANGE AND REASON FOR CHANGE						
10	13	Jostling NOT Joselyn						
		•						
13	7	at NOT it						
16	21	bulletins NOT Wooltons						
21	14	Kenner NOT Caron						
25 "In -	the matter of	of Missouri NOT Mississippi						
	,							
I declare that I have read my statements and that it is true and correct subject to any changes in the form or substance entered here.								
changes in the form of substance effected here.								
Date: 8-16	-2022	Witness:						

Pg ZofZ

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Investigation of:

FATAL AMTRAK GRADE CROSSING COLLISION & DERAILMENT IN MENDON, * Accident No.: RRD22MR010

MISSISSIPPI ON JUNE 27, 2022

Interview of: MICHAEL TUCK, Locomotive Engineer

Amtrak

Mendon, Missouri

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

APPEARANCES:

ZACH ZAGATA, Operations Group Chairman National Transportation Safety Board

STEVE FACKLAN, Party Spokesman
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen

DAN BONAWITZ, JR., Party Spokesman Smart Transportation Division

JOE MORRIS, Superintendent of Operations Amtrak

PAUL OMARA, System Vice-President of Transportation Amtrak

MICHAEL COOK, Director of Safety BNSF Transportation

CHRIS GROOM, Operating Practices Inspector Federal Railroad Administration

MICHAEL BACHMEIER, Office of the Investigator National Transportation Safety Board

BRIAN PORTER, Division Center Team, Local Chairman Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen

INDEX

ITEM			PAGE
Interview	of M	ichael Tuck:	
	By Mi	c. Zagata	5
	By Mi	c. Facklan	11
	By Mi	c. Bonawitz	14
	By Mi	c. Morris	16
	By Mi	c. Omara	17
	By Mi	c. Zagata	18
	By Mi	c. Facklan	19
	By Mi	c. Bonawitz	22
	Ву Мі	c. Zagata	22

INTERVIEW

(2:10 p.m.)

MR. ZAGATA: Good afternoon. My name is Zach Zagata and I am the NTSB Operations Group Chairman for this accident. We're here today on June 28th, 2022, at 2:10 to conduct an interview with Michael Tuck who works for Amtrak.

This interview is in conjunction with NTSB's investigation of the grade crossing accident near Mendon, Missouri. The NTSB accident reference number is RRD22MR010. The purpose of this investigation is to increase safety and not to assign fault, blame or liability.

Before we begin our interview and questions, let's go around our table and introduce ourselves. Please spell your last name, who you're representing and your title. I would like to remind everybody to speak clearly so we can get an accurate recording.

I'll start off and then pass it to my right. Again my name is Zach Zagata, Z-a-g-a-t-a, and I'm the NTSB Operation Group Chairman.

MR. FACKLAN: Steve Facklan, F-a-c-k-l-a-n, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, Party Spokesman.

MR. BONAWITZ: Dan Bonawitz, Jr., B-o-n-a-w-i-t-z, Smart Transportation Division, Party Spokesman.

MR. MORRIS: Joe Morris with Amtrak. I'm sorry, M-o-r-r-i-s, Amtrak, Superintendent of Operations.

MR. OMARA: Paul Omara, O-m-a-r-a, Amtrak, System Vice-

1 President of Transportation.

MR. COOK: Michael Cook, C-o-o-k, BNSF Transportation,

3 Director of Safety.

4 MR. GROOM: Chris Groom, G-r-o-o-m, FRA Operating Practices

5 Inspector.

2

6

7

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

MR. BACHMEIER: Michael Bachmeier, B-a-c-h-m-e-i-e-r, NTSB,
Office of the Investigator.

8 MR. PORTER: Brian Porter, P-o-r-t-e-r, BLET Division Center 9 Team, Local Chairman.

MR. TUCK: Michael Tuck, T-u-c-k, Amtrak Locomotive Engineer at Kansas City.

MR. ZAGATA: Okay, thank you. Do we have your permission to record our discussion with you today?

MR. TUCK: Yes, sir.

MR. ZAGATA: Okay. Do you understand that transcripts will be part of the public docket and as such we cannot guarantee any confidentiality?

MR. TUCK: Yes, sir.

MR. ZAGATA: Okay.

INTERVIEW OF MICHAEL TUCK

BY MR. ZAGATA:

- Q. To start off with, if you could just give us an overview of your railroad career.
- A. I started with Amtrak 30 years ago and I've worked for Amtrak for 30 years.

- Q. Okay. Have you worked in this location the entire time or --
- $2 \mid A$. No, I've worked in several different locations. I actually
- 3 | started out in the station for six months, then worked as a
- 4 conductor for three years, and the rest of my time has been as a
- 5 locomotive engineer. I've worked out of Kansas City, Chicago,
- 6 | Milwaukee, Omaha.
- 7 | Q. Okay, I appreciate it. Now, if you could give us a
- 8 description of your day, the day of the accident leading up to the
- 9 event.

- 10 A. From starting at what point?
- 11 || Q. When you went on duty.
- 12 A. I went on duty at 9:00 a.m. that morning. Our train was late
- 13 and we got the job briefing. Nothing out of the norm. I wait
- 14 | around for the train to get there, I think it departed at like
- 15 | 11:09 that morning, except 28 was supposed to be on time.
- 16 Q. Okay. And then once it departed, how did the rest of it go?
- 17 A. It was a busy day, but other than that, it was just a normal
- 18 | trip.
- 19 | Q. Okay. No issues with the train or anything?
- 20 A. No, sir. The train ran well. It was a good train.
- 21 0. Okay.
- 22 A. Good equipment.
- 23 | Q. Okay. How about the weather? Was it --
- 24 A. Clear, I mean, it wasn't hot that day, so --
- 25 | Q. Okay.

- A. -- it was nice.
- $2 \mid \mid Q$. All right. Now, as you're approaching that crossing, let's
- 3 | just say starting at a mile back, do you remember what throttle
- 4 you're in, approximate speed, and what you're doing with the
- 5 brakes and horn and that kind of stuff as you were coming up to
- 6 the crossing?

- 7 A. A mile back, I couldn't tell you what throttle position I was
- 8 in. It's kind of a slight downhill going into that, so I didn't
- 9 have any ears up at that time. It's pretty flat -- that's pretty
- 10 | flat going through there.
- 11 | Q. Okay.
- 12 | A. So --
- 13 Q. And then how about as you were coming in to the whistle board
- 14 | there? Did you start blowing for the crossing?
- 15 A. Yes, sir, prior to or at the whistle board.
- $16 \parallel Q$. Okay, all right. Then what were you doing as you were coming
- 17 | up to that as far as throttle and before you start blowing the
- 18 horn? Do you remember?
- 19 A. I cannot say.
- 20 | Q. Okay.
- 21 A. I'm sorry.
- 22 Q. That's all right, yes. So, as you were approaching that, do
- 23 you recall about how far back you were when you first noticed that
- 24 truck approaching that crossing?
- 25 A. Probably pretty close to the whistle board.

- Q. Okay. Is it normal to see a lot of traffic going into that
- 2 | area?
- $3 \mid A$. Not for me.
- $4 \parallel Q$. Okay. Have you ever had any close calls there before?
- 5 A. Not that I recollect.
- 6 Q. Okay. So, as you saw that truck started coming, you started
- 7 | blowing right at the whistle board or whereabouts?
- 8 A. Prior to.
- 9 Q. Okay, prior to. Did you realize at a certain point as you
- 10 were approaching that that he wasn't going to make it through the
- 11 crossing there?
- 12 | A. Repeat that one more time, please.
- 13 Q. Was there a point when you realized, you thought that he
- 14 | wasn't going to make it all the way through the crossing, that you
- 15 were going to impact, or did you think the entire time that he was
- 16 going to get through there?
- 17 A. It was questionable.
- 18 Q. Okay. As far as the brakes at that point, what were you
- 19 doing with the brakes?
- 20 A. I'm whistling. I don't know if I had set a minimum; I would
- 21 have set a minimum, if anything, just to see but I really can't
- 22 | tell you.
- 23 Q. Okay. Did you put the train into emergency --
- 24 | A. Yes, sir.
- $25 \parallel Q$. -- at any point? Okay.

A. Yes, sir.

1

- $2 \parallel Q$. Was that before impact or after?
- $3 \parallel A$. Prior to.
- $4 \parallel Q$. Prior to. Do you remember about how far prior to?
- 5 A. I speculate three seconds.
- Q. Okay. Does that happen quite a bit where when you see trucks trying to -- or vehicles trying to run crossings and you're not at
- 8 this location, but just in general in crossings like this?
- 9 A. I would say no.
- Q. No, okay. After the accident, what did you do? You put the train into emergency after the impact and then can you kind of talk us through what happened there?
- A. I got on the radio and called out emergency three times and
- 14 gave them a mile post location. I turned up the dispatcher at
- 15 911. I didn't really know what was happening behind me at that
- 16 point. I just knew that we had an impact, and both mirrors were
- 17 tucked in so I couldn't see anything on either side. And I told
- 18 the dispatcher that we went into emergency and hit a dump truck, I
- 19 would have said,.
- 20 | Q. How long did you sit on the train for after that?
- 21 | A. In the locomotive?
- 22 | Q. Yes.
- A. Not very long because I know when I talked to him, he of course wanted information. I can't see anything behind me. I --
- 25 my mirror, I can actually see out a little bit and I can see the

other engine and the baggage car leaning. So, at that point I had just told him that we had two cars on the ground. I couldn't get out on the fireman's side because the door was compacted and I couldn't get it open.

So, I mean, at that point I climbed off the engine and looked and I could see at that point, you know, I had to walk around both sides of the train and see that we were no longer on the rails.

- Q. Okay. What did you do after that? Did you assist passengers?
- A. I went back up on the engine and let him know what we had as

 far as all the cars on the ground. And I didn't know -- I mean,

 eventually, I talked to our conductor on the radio and you could

 kind of just hear Jocelyn (ph.) back there and I told the

 dispatcher, I said, listen, there's -- we need all the personnel

 you can get and I'm going back. There was nothing more I could do

 from the engine.
- Q. Okay. I appreciate it. As far as the speed on that, what's the max speed at that location?
- 19 A. 90.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

- Q. 90. And do you recall how approximately how fast you were going? Do you remember looking?
- 22 A. About close to 90.
- 23 | Q. About 90?
- 24 A. There was no beeps or anything going off, so it wasn't --
- 25 Q. Okay. I appreciate that.

- MR. ZAGATA: That's all I've got for now. I'm going to pass it to my right.
- MR. FACKLAM: Steve Facklan, F-a-c-k-l-a-n, BLET Safety Task 4 Force, Party Spokesman.

BY MR. FACKLAM:

- Q. Let's see, you went on duty at your -- 9:00 a.m. is that your normal start time or do you get a call?
- A. I got a call the night before for one setback and then I took another setback in the morning because the train had lost more time. 6:43 is my normal sign up time.
- 11 | Q. Okay. When did you get this second call? Before work?
- 12 A. I could look at my phone, I don't know.
- 13 0. And --

1

2

5

- A. It was early, it was probably 4:00. I know I had set my alarm and it was before my alarm even went off for the first call.
- 16 So, it's probably 5:30 in the morning.
- 17 Q. Okay. And how long did they move your start time back then?
- 18 A. I think I had a 7:00 start time. No, that wouldn't be right.
- 19 I would have to look at my phone. I took the first call at
- 20 probably 10:30 the night before and then they set me back again in
- 21 | the morning because the train had lost more time.
- 22 Q. Now, the first time, how far did they set you back?
- 23 | A. An hour.
- 24 | Q. And --
- 25 A. So, it probably would have been -- I would say it was an

- 1 hour. I get setback so much anymore I can't remember the day or 2 the times.
- $3 \parallel Q$. I work in the same line so I understand that. The second
- 4 | time --
- $5 \parallel A$. Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. -- they called you, how far did they set you back then?
- 7 A. If they set me back an hour the first time, then set me back
- 8 probably another hour and a half --
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. I went on duty at 9:00. I was supposed to go on at 6:43,
- 11 | so --
- 12 Q. Does that affect your sleep?
- 13 | A. No.
- 14 Q. Okay. And you're saying it's pretty much a normal day, maybe
- 15 | a little busy with train traffic out there?
- 16 | A. Yes, sir.
- 17 Q. Okay. Good equipment. When you're approaching the crossing,
- 18 you started whistling either at the whistle board or before?
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. And you're whistling before you even notice the track?
- 21 A. Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. Okay. And as you're coming up to the crossing, it's just --
- 23 you said right at the whistle board you kind of started noticing
- 24 | the truck or right after the whistle board?
- 25 A. Probably right around there. Yes, sir.

- 1 Q. Okay. Did he look like he was going to -- did he look like
- 2 \parallel he even saw you or was he -- did he see you and maybe tried to
- $3 \mid \mid$ race you to get over the crossing or he --
- $4 \parallel A$. I don't believe that.
- 5 0. You don't think he even saw the train?
- 6 A. That would be -- I can't answer for that. All I can tell you
- 7 | is I saw him and he was moving it, you know, whatever the country
- 8 road speed was.
- 9 Q. Did he -- I think there was a stop sign there -- did he stop
- 10 before he went across the tracks?
- 11 A. I can't answer that either.
- 12 | Q. Okay.
- 13 A. I don't know. I can't say for sure so I won't say.
- 14 Q. Okay, all right. As you were -- you went about -- you said
- 15 | it was about three seconds when it looked like you were going to
- 16 | impact when he wasn't going to make it across?
- 17 A. I'm guessing that --
- 18 (Crosstalk)
- 19 A. When I put into emergency, I didn't -- just from working at
- 20 | the railroad, I thought he would clear. I thought it would just
- 21 be a near-miss and I don't know what -- by the time I put it in
- 22 | emergency knowing what it was, I got on the floor.
- 23 Q. You hit the floor?
- 24 | A. Yes, sir.
- 25 Q. And the impact, did it toss you around, did you --

- A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.
- Q. Okay, okay.

2

- $3 \parallel MR$. FACKLAM: Well, that's all I have for right now.
- 4 MR. BONAWITZ: Dan Bonawitz, B-o-n-a-w-i-t-z, Smart
- 5 Transportation Division, Assistant Coordinator for the National 6 Safety Team.
- 7 BY MR. BONAWITZ:
- Q. First and foremost, thank you for all you did. I think you guys did a great job and I'm sorry that anybody has to go through a critical incident like this. So, I want you to know that, you know, we feel for what you've had to go through.
- I want to go back to what you said about being set backed, that your normal on duty time was 6:43. Is that correct?
- 14 | A. Yes, sir.
- 15 Q. And, so, you recall the first time -- and we're all
- 16 approximate here, about 10:30 p.m. and you got set backed
- 17 approximately an hour and then what was the time approximately the
- 18 | second call came to you?
- 19 A. I guessed 5:30, but I --
- 20 | Q. It's all approximate.
- 21 A. Yes, I'm guessing. The crew --
- 22 (Crosstalk)
- 23 A. I can -- if you want me to get my phone out --
- 24 | Q. No --
- $25 \parallel A$. -- I can turn it on.

- 1 Q. So, the first time, it's eight hours before you're supposed
- 2 to go on duty and the second time would be two hours before you're
- 3 supposed to go on duty from the first setback. So, if I
- 4 understand this correct, your normal duty's at 6:43 and your first
- 5 call was at 10:30 p.m., approximately eight hours before your on-
- 6 duty time, setback an hour to 7:43, we'll just say, or next call
- 7 approximately 5:30 and it's set back a little more. So, now
- 8 you're two hours from that first --
- $9 \parallel A$. Um-hum.
- 10 0. -- setback call time.
- 11 | A. Um-hum.
- 12 Q. And you said that that happens a lot.
- 13 A. At times.
- 14 Q. So, it's infrequent, you know, you go to work normally and
- 15 | then some days it'll just -- you'll get setbacks. With -- how do
- 16 you get your rest on something like that?
- 17 A. I just do.
- 18 (Crosstalk)
- 19 A. -- the night before, how the train's looking and there's --
- 20 | we're at the mercy of the other railroads right now getting across
- 21 the road. So --
- 22 | Q. I understand completely. The only other question I'd like to
- 23 go towards is when you got off, you went back to see what was
- 24 going on and help out. Were you physically on any of the cars or
- 25 were you from the ground helping?

- A. I was on the cars.
- Q. Was it easy to get people out or was it -- how did that
- 3 | transpire?

- $4 \mid \mid A$. The ones I helped get out, they were -- and most of what I
- 5 was doing was getting people off the cars and getting them over --
- 6 Q. Yes.
- 7 A. -- to the -- so I kind of went up from the bottom and climbed
- 8 | up the bottom.
- 9 Q. Okay. So, you came in from the bottom and you were able --
- 10 A. And I got to the top and would get people down from there.
- 11 Q. Okay. For now that's it. Thanks for all you did.
- 12 A. Thank you.
- 13 MR. MORRIS: Joe Morris, I'm the Amtrak Superintendent.
- 14 BY MR. MORRIS:
- 15 Q. Mike, with the setbacks, how did you feel? Did you feel
- 16 | rested?
- 17 A. I was fine.
- 18 | Q. Fatigue didn't factor in in any way?
- 19 A. No, sir.
- 20 Q. All right. And there wasn't anything temporary on your track
- 21 | wooltons (ph.) and then very -- within the vicinity of the
- 22 | incident?
- 23 A. There was about to be.
- 24 Q. About to be.
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. But --
- A. Prior to?
- $3 \parallel 0$. Yes.

2

- 4 | A. No.
- 5 Q. Okay. And did you put the train in emergency as soon as you
- 6 knew that there was a danger of impact?
- $7 \mid \mid A$. When I thought the potential was there, yes, sir.
- Q. Okay. And after you went back, you just remained back and rendered aid for the rest of the time?
- 10 A. I would go back to the engine and periodically check in with
- 11 the dispatcher and let him know what we were up against, you know,
- 12 | just essentially assessed the situation and moved on from there
- 13 because it would change frequently. And so, I would go back and
- 14 | forth. I was on people's cellphones, you know, different people,
- 15 passengers because they would call 911, they would want me to
- 16 speak, but I would still go back to the engine, talked to dispatch
- 17 and said this where we are, this is what we need.
- 18 0. That's all I have.
- 19 MR. OMARA: Paul Omara, O-m-a-r-a, Amtrak.
- 20 BY MR. OMARA:
- 21 | Q. Mike, you said you had -- as far as you felt the equipment
- 22 was in good shape --
- 23 | A. Yes, sir.
- 24 | Q. -- good equipment?
- 25 A. Yes, sir.

- Q. Okay. You were operating with PTC --
- A. Yes, sir.
- 0. -- on?

2

3

7

8

9

10

12

13

14

15

16

17

- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. No issues? And it was braking okay throughout the trip, no exceptions to the brakes? Okay. Nothing else.
 - MR. COOK: Michael Cook, C-o-o-k, NSF Transportation Safety

 Director. I don't have any questions, but I would like to

 complement you on how professional and calm you were when you were

 talking to the dispatcher. That was very, very good.
- 11 MR. TUCK: Thank you.
 - MR. GROM: Chris Groom, G-r-o-o-m, FRA Operating Practices Inspector. And I just want to say job well done from our standpoint. On the radio, you were very professional in helping out in the situation that you were going into. But I think all the gentlemen in front of me had covered all the questions I was looking at, so I don't have anything at this time.
- 18 MR. TUCK: Thank you.
- 19 MR. ZAGATA: Zach Zagata, NTSB, Z-a-g-a-t-a.
- 20 BY MR. ZAGATA:
- Q. In regards to the emergency response, how do you think that was falling? Pretty quick as far as response time?
- 23 | A. I thought everything was -- I mean, all things considered.
- We had scouts on the train, they helped out. We had -- as chaotic as maybe the scene looked, it wasn't chaotic out. The people were

- 1 responding as you hoped human beings would respond in a situation
- 2 like that. And that includes all the emergency personnel and
- 3 passengers helping each other. People weren't getting -- they
- 4 weren't panicking.
- $5 \parallel Q$. How long did you think it was before the local responders
- 6 showed up?
- 7 A. I can't say.
- 8 0. That's --
- 9 (Crosstalk)
- 10 A. It's never going to be fast enough.
- 11 | Q. But you felt like when they arrived, it was all pretty
- 12 organized? They seemed like they were -- they knew what they were
- 13 doing?
- 14 A. I can't say. That's not my position.
- 15 Q. I got you. Understood, understood. Okay. That's all I've
- 16 got.
- MR. FACKLAN: Steven Facklan, F-a-c-k-l-a-n, BLET, Party
- 18 | Spokesman.
- 19 BY MR. FACKLAN:
- 20 Q. Going into some of the emergency response, I couldn't quite
- 21 remember about how long the first -- it took for the first
- 22 responders to get out there. I mean, are we talking 10 minutes or
- 23 half hour or --
- 24 | A. You know what, I can't say because it's not like the
- 25 emergency responders were wearing a specific uniform that says I'm

here to help. I mean, they were -- probably a lot of volunteers
that showed up looking like we're sitting here at the table. And
so, I don't know who the emergency responders are or I don't know
who the passengers are. I was also -- I started at the front and
from where that road crossing is, they were starting towards the
rear. So, it was probably a work --

(Crosstalk)

- Q. Do you recall if it was like the local Mendon area?
- 9 A. They were -- I would be speculating -- but I mean it was a lot of counties there. I saw a lot of different county shirts,
- 11 | so --

7

8

- 12 Q. Did more response keep coming?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 | 0. Okay.
- 15 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Okay. And you were talking about your going back and forth to the engine. I work in freight and I'm sure it's similar. The engine has the more powerful radio --
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 | Q. -- to communicate with.
- 21 A. Yes, sir.
- 22 | Q. Correct? And that's --
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. -- kind of why you go and forth because you're probably the main conduit with the dispatching?

A. Yes, he can --

1

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

- Q. Can he hear that? Can he hear the radio -
 (Crosstalk)
 - A. He can hear the portable, but they're very faint. And the other thing, too, is anything I'm transmitting over our radio, other people around can hear. So, I mean, other freight, you know, I mean, it was probably pretty critical once I said emergency and where we were at that another freight train doesn't go by on main track number 1 at that point because then you'd have
- Q. Yes. Okay. After the response, about how long from after the accident happened to -- how long was it -- how long did you remain on scene?
- A. Ben Caron {ph.) would be the person to ask about that because we left with him, and once again, time froze that day.
- 16 Q. Yes, I imagine.
- 17 (Crosstalk)
- A. So, I can't tell you from the day it happened to the time it left, it was all still the same time and running on adrenaline.
- 20 Q. And then was it Amtrak that picked you up?
- 21 A. Yes, sir.
- 22 | Q. And they -- where did they take you after that?
- 23 A. Provided lodging.
- 24 Q. Provided lodging over there?

a second disaster on your hands.

25 | A. Yes, sir.

- Q. Okay. And you got fed and everything --
- 2 A. Yes, sir.

5

- 3 | 0. -- treated well?
- $4 \parallel A$. Yes, yes, treated well.
 - Q. Okay. That's all I have. Thank you.
- 6 MR. BONAWITZ: Dan Bonawitz, B-o-n-a-w-i-t-z, Smart TD.
- 7 BY MR. BONAWITZ:
- 8 Q. Did you receive any emergency response training from Amtrak?
- 9 A. Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. How to respond?
- 11 | A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. And how is that done? What -- is it computer-based, is it
- 13 classroom? Is it --
- 14 A. Classroom, yearly.
- 15 Q. Okay. That's all I have.
- 16 | A. Okay.
- 17 MR. ZAGATA: All right, NTSB, Zagata.
- 18 BY MR. ZAGATA:
- 19 Q. Last question for you. So, as far as the equipment, did you
- 20 | feel like you had everything you needed to assist those
- 21 passengers?
- 22 A. Ladders would have been nice, but other than that, yes. I
- 23 | mean, we had -- I took the first aid kits off the engines we had
- 24 | up there. We had -- I mean, it's kind -- we had two engines that
- 25 | had refrigerators full of water, so we took all the water off the

- 1 engines and we're distributing it before BNSF showed up and they
- 2 | had -- they provided plenty of water for the responders and
- 3 everybody. But as far as, you know, we had plenty of -- I mean, a
- 4 | ladder would have been very handy for some of the -- I mean, we
- 5 still managed to unload them and I don't think anybody got hurt
- 6 while unloading. But kind of tricky with some of the, you know,
- 7 older and not mobile people.
- 8 \parallel 0. You feel like you had enough first aid kits and all that?
- 9 A. Sure.
- 10 Q. Okay. What about the lighting?
- 11 A. It was -- train was on the side and the doors were open, so
- 12 the sun was shining right in, the top of the cars were hot and --
- 13 Q. Yes.
- 14 | A. -- plenty of lighting.
- 15 Q. All right. No, I appreciate it and I appreciate you helping
- 16 us out with this. Last question. Is there anything you think
- 17 could be done to prevent something like this from happening again?
- 18 A. I mean, it was an accident. So, I don't have an answer for
- 19 | that.
- 20 Q. Okay, I appreciate it.
- 21 MR. ZAGATA: Well, if nobody else has any additional
- 22 questions, we'll conclude the interview. I appreciate it.
- 23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thanks for your time, Mike.
- 24 MR. TUCK: Thank you, guys.
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I appreciate all you do.

1	(Whereupon,	the	interview	was	concluded.)
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
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: FATAL AMTRAK GRADE CROSSING

COLLISION & DERAILMENT IN MENDON,

MISSISSIPPI ON JUNE 27, 2022 Interview of Michael Tuck

ACCIDENT NO.: RRD22MR010

PLACE: Mendon, Missouri

DATE: June 28, 2022

was held according to the record, and that this is the original, complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed to the best of my skill and ability.

Maria Socorro R. Abellar Transcriber