NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD OFFICE OF MARINE SAFETY WASHINGTON, D.C.

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EXPRESS SHUTTLE II

NTSB #DCA05MM002

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INTERVIEW OF

PATROL OFFICER KURT HENSCHEL :

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An interview in the above entitled matter was held on Saturday, October 23, 2004, commencing at 11:20 a.m., before:

BOB FORD, NTSB
BRIAN CURTIS, NTSB
NANCY MCATEE, NTSB
MAC MELENDEZ, FL PD

- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 MS. MCATEE: It's October 23rd at 11:20 a.m.,
- 3 interviewing today Officer Kurt Henschel, with the Port
- 4 Richey Police Department. First of all, we're going to go
- 5 around and have everybody say their name and what
- 6 organization they're from, so the stenographer can identify
- 7 them on the transcript. I'm Nancy McAtee, I'm a fire and
- 8 explosion specialist with the National Transportation Safety
- 9 Board.
- 10 MR. FORD: Bob Ford, investigator in charge,
- 11 National Transportation Safety Board.
- MR. CURTIS: Brian Curtis, engineering
- 13 investigator, National Transportation Safety Board.
- MR. MELENDEZ: Mac Melendez, State Fire Marshal.
- 15 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: Patrol Officer Kurt
- 16 Henschel, Port Richey Police Department.
- 17 MS. MCATEE: Officer Henschel, how were you first
- 18 notified of the fire? How did you first become aware of it?
- 19 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: Through dispatch.
- MS. MCATEE: Through dispatch.
- 21 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: We had several 911 call-
- 22 ins that day.
- MS. MCATEE: Why don't you walk us through from
- 24 the time that you were dispatched through the end of the
- 25 call?

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1 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: I responded with 9,022,
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- 2 which was my Corporal. When we got there, basically, I was
- 3 in charge of securing the scene, and he went to, I guess,
- 4 secure the area down farther towards the waterway. I was
- 5 just, basically, securing the scene up front, you know, the
- 6 fire trucks and everything. Once -- after he got done with
- 7 what they needed to do, that was it.
- 8 MS. MCATEE: Do you respond often to marine
- 9 accidents?
- 10 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: No, ma'am.
- 11 MS. MCATEE: Okay.
- 12 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: I just basically kept
- 13 all the press out of the way, kept them out of the whole
- 14 mix.
- MS. MCATEE: Have there been any other follow-up
- 16 that's been required of you on this accident?
- 17 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: No, ma'am.
- MS. MCATEE: Okay.
- 19 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: Like I said, I was just
- 20 securing the scene up front.
- MS. MCATEE: Okay.
- MR. CURTIS: They pumped the fuel off the vessel
- 23 at some point. So, you weren't involved in any of that --
- 24 PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: I was just securing the
- 25 front of the scene, because the boat was engulfed behind the

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    house, and I was actually in front of that house, probably,
    50 yards in front of the house, and put a line there,
    letting no one pass through.
 3
 4
              MR. CURTIS: Do you know how many law enforcement
    boats were dispatched or weren't you on that side?
 5
 6
              PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: I wasn't even on that
 7
    side. I was just securing the scene up front.
 8
              MR. CURTIS: Okay, that's it.
 9
              MS. MCATEE: Quick and dirty.
10
              PATROL OFFICER HENSCHEL: I didn't really see much
11
    of it.
12
              MS. MCATEE: That's fine.
13
              (Whereupon, at 11:22 a.m., the interview was
    concluded.)
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CERTIFICATE

DEPOSITION SERVICES, INC., hereby certifies that the attached pages represent an accurate transcript of the electronic sound recording of the proceedings of the National Transportation Safety Board Interview regarding the Express Shuttle II, NTSB #DCA05MM002.

INTERVIEW OF PATROL OFFICER KURT HENSCHEL
PORT RICHEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Eve Jemison, Transcriber