



**NTSB** National Transportation Safety Board

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*Office of Highway Safety*

# Introduction

David S. Rayburn

Schlitzsky's Deli





HOME OF THE ORIGINAL SANDWICH  
**Schlotzsky's Deli**  
7-11-11 • Hot 134 • 100-170 Sit • Drive-Thru

2 14 '03



# Motorcoach Driver and Witness Statements

- Motorcoach traveling 65 mph in posted 70 mph zone
- Driver reduced speed to 60 mph
- Witnesses stated rain reduced visibility to ½ mile or less

# Witness Statements

- About 9:30 a.m. an accident occurred, causing traffic to back up
- Traffic not visible until crest of hill
- Traffic queue estimated 350 feet north of beginning of skid marks

# Motorcoach Driver Information

- 58 years old
- Valid CDL and medical certificate
- 23 years' commercial vehicle driving experience
- No alcohol or performance-impairing drugs
- Off duty for 3 days preceding accident
- On duty for 2.75 hours at time of accident

# Motorcoach Driver's Performance

- Traffic queue visible 767 feet ahead
- Heavy rain may have reduced the visibility further
- 2.0 to 2.3 seconds to detect traffic, decide what to do, and begin braking
- AASHTO utilizes 2.5-second perception reaction time



# Safety Issues

- Sight distance and speed
- Roadway and tire friction interaction
- Effect of differing front and rear tire tread depths
- Wet weather accident location identification

# Parties to the Investigation

- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Motor Coach Industries
- Central Texas Trails, Inc.



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