



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Highway Safety

**Motorcoach Override
of Elevated Exit Ramp
Interstate Highway 75
Atlanta, Georgia
March 2, 2007**



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Introduction

Robert Accetta

Investigative Team

- Gary Van Etten – Motor Carrier
- Jennifer Morrison – Vehicle Factors
- Hank Hughes – Survival Factors
- Burt Simon – Human Performance
- David Rayburn – Highway Factors
- Chris Voeglie – ECM and Mapping
- Ken Suydam – Family Assistance
- Eric Grosf – Family Assistance
- Paul Schlamm – Media Relations
- Robert Accetta – IIC
- Member Higgins – Member On-Scene
- Denise Daniels – Special Assistant

Report Development

- Deborah Bruce, PhD – Project Manager
- Debbie Taylor – Editor
- Julie Perrot – Safety Recommendations
- Christy Spangler – Vehicle Analysis
- Shane Lack – Vehicle Analysis
- Mitch Garber, M.D. – Medical Analysis
- Kris Poland, PhD – Biomechanical Analysis
- Bruce Coury, PhD – Data Analysis
- Deborah Stocker – Proofreader
- Avis Clark – Audiovisual Support

Parties to the Investigation

- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
- Georgia Department of Transportation
- Georgia Department of Public Safety
- Atlanta Police Department
- Ohio Public Utilities Commission
- Executive Coach Luxury Travel, Inc.
- ABC Companies (Vanhool)
- Bluffton University

Safety Issues

- HOV Traffic Control Devices
- Motorcoach Occupant Protection
- Event Data Recorders



Northside Drive
HOV-only left exit

Northside Drive
overpass

I-75 SB lanes

I-75 HOV lane
diverges left

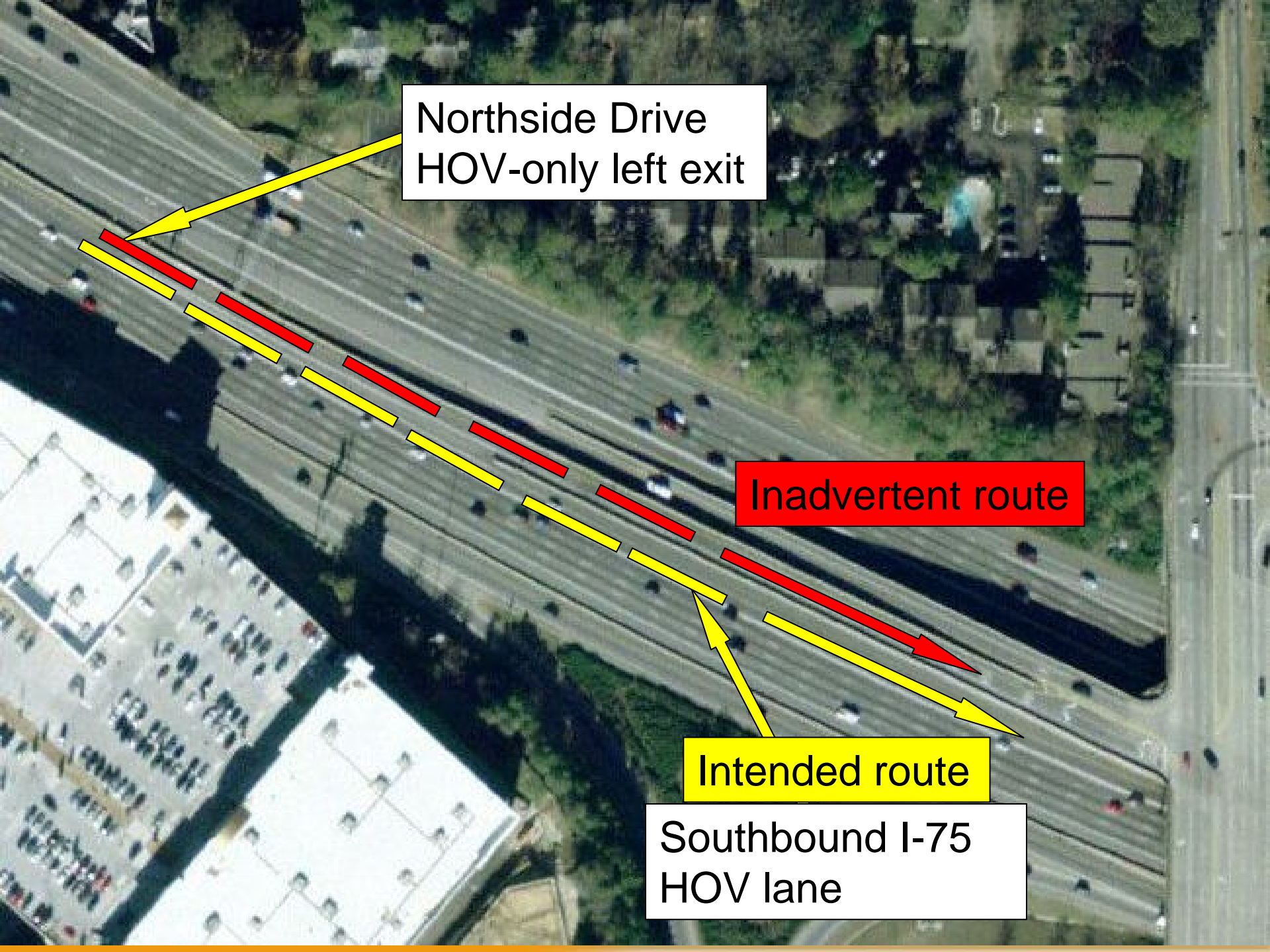
General
purpose lanes

Northside Drive
HOV-only left exit

Inadvertent route

Intended route

Southbound I-75
HOV lane



Background Information

- About 4:30 a.m. EST
- Friday, March 2, 2007
- 2000 VanHool 57-passenger motorcoach
- Executive Coach Luxury Travel
- Adairsville, Georgia
- Relief driver and his wife
- 33 members - Bluffton University baseball team
- Southbound - Interstate 75
- En route to Sarasota, Florida

HOV lane



Northside Drive exit



Exit ramp



T-intersection



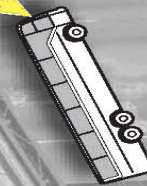
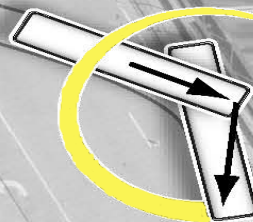
Motorcoach Rotation



Northbound ←

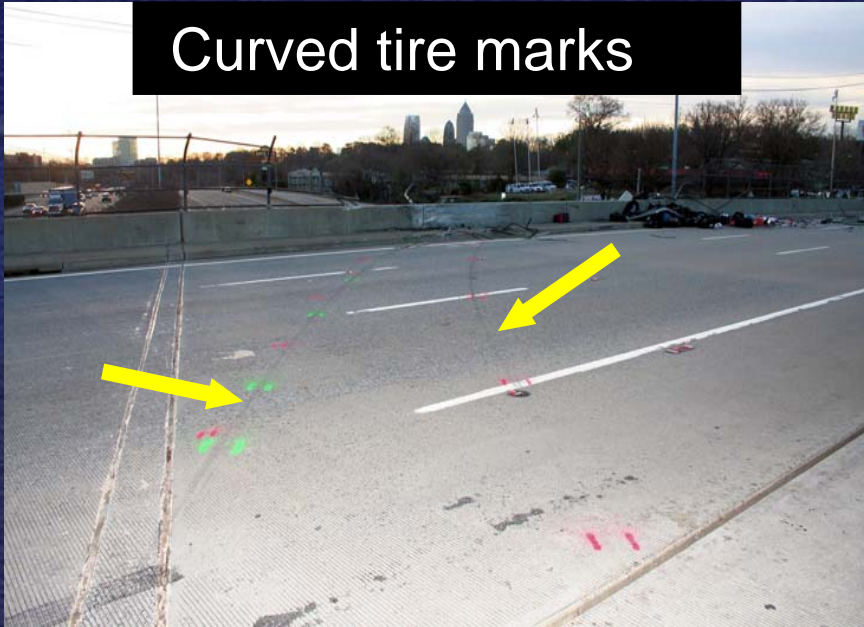


Southbound →



Not to scale

Curved tire marks



Bridge rail



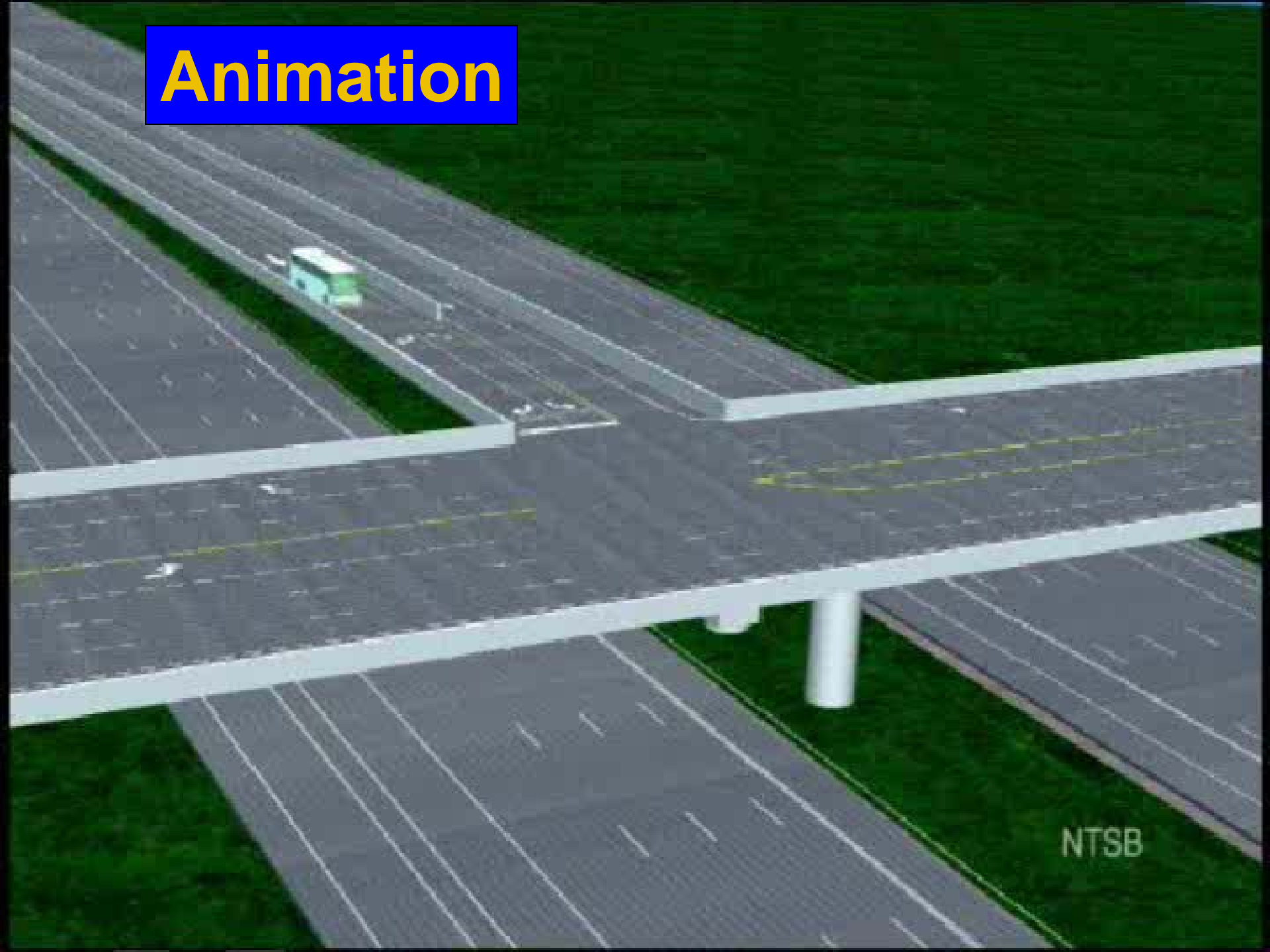
Chain link fence



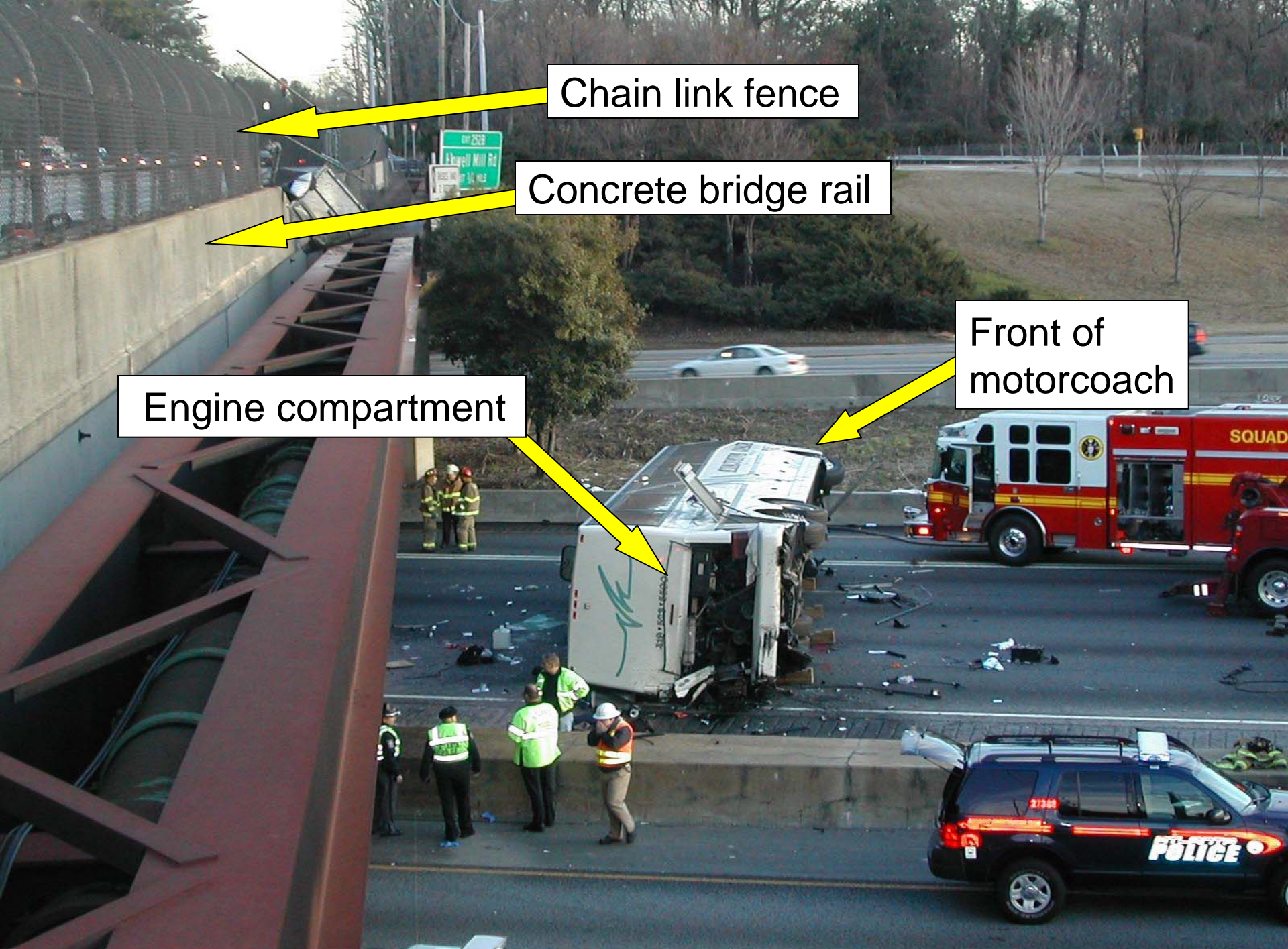
Eastbound lanes



Animation



NTSB



Chain link fence

Concrete bridge rail

Engine compartment

Front of motorcoach

HWY Photo 12 - View of Area Where the Motorcoach came to a Final Position after falling off of the Bridge.

Injuries

- 7 fatal injuries
 - Driver
 - Driver's wife
 - 5 passengers
- 28 passenger injuries
 - 7 serious
 - 21 minor
- 2 passenger vehicles – minor damage
- No occupant injuries



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