



## P R O C E E D I N G S

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MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Let's start, why don't you give me your full name, address and a phone number contact where we can reach you if we have further questions.

MS. BUELL: My name is Tamara --

MS. KEEGAN: T-A-M --

MS. BUELL: T-A-M-A-R-A, Louise.

MS. KEEGAN: L-O-U-I-S-E.

MS. BUELL: Buell, B-U-E-L-L.

MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Address?

MS. BUELL: [REDACTED]

MS. KEEGAN: And phone number contact if we need to reach you again?

MS. BUELL: [REDACTED]

MS. KEEGAN: That will not be in the report, and so, I just want to let you know that. It is not like a whole bunch of people will be calling you.

MS. BUELL: Okay.

MS. KEEGAN: Okay. What I would like to do is, I would like to have you start with when you noticed something, no, let me go back.

I would like to have you start when with you boarded the boat and what happened and then run

1 me all the way through to the incident and how it  
2 happened and what happened?

3 MS. BUELL: Okay.

4 MS. KEEGAN: And take your time.

5 MS. BUELL: Okay. And if you want to stop me  
6 anywhere, and ask questions, that is fine, too.

7 Okay. I got on the boat and counted the  
8 people. We had 16 and then we had one extra  
9 passenger that was suppose to go on the Bullfrog,  
10 but they decided not to go out because it was too  
11 rough. So, they split the two passengers that were  
12 on the Bullfrog, they split one, put one on the  
13 Taki Too and one on the D&D, so we actually had 17  
14 people plus two crew. So, everybody was on the  
15 boat, and the first thing that Doug and any captain  
16 always does is give the speech that is required by  
17 the Coast Guard and they tell everybody that is real  
18 important and make sure everybody is listening.

19 MS. KEEGAN: Could you be a little more  
20 specific about the speech and what that involved?

21 MS. BUELL: Sure.

22 MS. KEEGAN: Thanks.

23 MS. BUELL: Okay. The first thing he says  
24 is the Coast Guard requires, wants us to give you an  
25 orientation to the boat. And it is required. And  
26 we just show them where the safety features are, as

1 well as some other things. He says the most  
2 important thing is the life jackets. They are in  
3 labeled bins underneath the dinette table and he  
4 said it very formally and clearly. I know everybody  
5 heard. There was some people on that that had been  
6 out with him several times before, they actually  
7 requested him as a captain, because they liked going  
8 out with him so much. And that is why he was running  
9 the boat. So, he talked about the life vests. And  
10 said that if anybody wanted to get them on, it was  
11 up to them. And to just ask us if they needed help  
12 getting them out or anything.

13 He said there is a life raft on the top,  
14 that automatically floats off if the boat goes down.

15 And he said there is a throw ring and he pointed  
16 that out and said if anybody goes over, throw that  
17 at them and retrieve them. And the emergency flare  
18 kit and a first aid kit in the cabin. He said,  
19 some of his personal rules, no hard alcohol, no  
20 drugs, no throwing trash overboard and no getting  
21 sick in the cabin. And he says that, I would tell  
22 them about the fishing when we got out there. And  
23 we are not throwing crab pots because there is a bit  
24 swell and the bar, he said it is going to be kind of  
25 bumpy out there, I think is what he said, something  
26 like that. So, he said we are going to leave the

1 crab pots on the dock.

2 MS. KEEGAN: I want to stop you a second.

3 MS. BUELL: Yes.

4 MS. KEEGAN: Because I need to catch up and  
5 also I wanted to ask one more question I forgot to  
6 ask to begin with.

7 What is your position on the boat?

8 MS. BUELL: Deck hand.

9 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

10 And the crab pots, no crab pots.

11 MS. BUELL: We were scheduled to have crab  
12 pots that day.

13 MS. KEEGAN: Oh, there was --

14 MS. BUELL: But, we, we had decided, Doug  
15 and I had talked about it and decided that we  
16 shouldn't do it because when there is a big swell it  
17 is so hard to get them back.

18 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

19 MS. BUELL: We decided, we told the  
20 passengers that. And they had in the office when  
21 we were talking about the big swell and the rough  
22 bar, so, they knew it was going to be kind of bumpy  
23 out there.

24 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

25 MS. BUELL: Okay. So, after the speech, we  
26 untied, and started driving out there. We were, I

1 don't know remember whether we were following the  
2 D&D, but, we all ended up there, the Norwester, the  
3 Oakland Pilot and the D&D and one other small boat  
4 that I didn't recognize.

5 MS. KEEGAN: The Oldwester --

6 MS. BUELL: The Norwester?

7 MS. KEEGAN: Norwester.

8 MS. BUELL: That is one our boats.

9 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

10 MS. BUELL: The D&D, that is another one of  
11 our boats.

12 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

13 MS. BUELL: And the Oakland Pilot, the  
14 Oakland Pilot had been out there approximately 45  
15 minutes watching the bar.

16 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

17 MS. BUELL: And then there was one other  
18 small boat, and the Coast Guard Cutter.

19 MS. KEEGAN: You said that the Oakland Pilot  
20 had been out there 45 minutes.

21 MS. BUELL: About.

22 MS. KEEGAN: Is that typical that they, you  
23 send someone out early to watch the --

24 MS. BUELL: Oh, they, they are a different,  
25 they are a different office.

26 MS. KEEGAN: Oh, okay.

1 MS. BUELL: So, they have a different check  
2 in time, about a half hour earlier than us, so they  
3 had been waiting out there, to see if the bar is  
4 getting better.

5 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

6 MS. BUELL: The low tide was right about at  
7 seven, 6:58 I think. And so everybody is just kind  
8 of waiting around for that and watching to see where  
9 they could maybe get out, you know, when there is a  
10 flat spot. So, we were all just out there jogging  
11 for about, probably 45 minutes and then the  
12 Norwester went, it was still pretty crumby, because  
13 we watched them go, and it looked like we wouldn't  
14 want to go if it was still like that. And Tron, that  
15 is my brother, he is driving the Norwester, he  
16 called on the radio back  
17 to --

18 MS. KEEGAN: What is his name?

19 MS. BUELL: Tron, T-R-O-N.

20 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. And which boat was he on?

21 MS. BUELL: Norwester, he is the captain.

22 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

23 MS. BUELL: And he called back and said that  
24 it wasn't worth it, to go out, just to wait until it  
25 settled down a little bit because it was a little  
26 hairy.

1           So, probably about five to 10 minutes later  
2           the Oakland Pilot went. And he also said it was  
3           pretty rough. And so, it was just the Taki Too and  
4           the D&D and the one other small boat left. And the  
5           D&D started kind of inching up there. It was a good  
6           15 minutes, I would say, after the Oakland Pilot  
7           went that the D&D started to kind of inching out  
8           there. And then there was a really nice big opening  
9           and they went for it. And it looked like they just  
10          didn't have any problem at all unlike the other two,  
11          you know. We had waited until it was, it was a good  
12          spot. They went out and we didn't talk to them on  
13          the radio, but, we kind of nosed up there. We  
14          didn't, we didn't make another circle, so, probably  
15          it was about five minutes after the D&D went, we got  
16          up the middle of the bar. Pretty much in between  
17          the jets of the jetty and I saw that Doug was going  
18          to go for it, so I told everybody that, to sit down  
19          and hang on and most people are sitting anyway.

20                 MS. KEEGAN: I just want to clarify  
21                 something right now.

22                 When you said you told everybody to sit  
23                 down, was every, all the passengers inside the  
24                 cabin?

25                 MS. BUELL: No.

26                 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

1 MS. BUELL: I thought that they were all  
2 outside. I knew there was one guy downstairs, but,  
3 from what other people have told me, there may have  
4 been more downstairs, but, when I looked back, I saw  
5 most of our people sitting on the either side of the  
6 engine, you know, where our seats are.

7 MS. KEEGAN: Here is a diagram actually.

8 MS. BUELL: Sure.

9 MS. KEEGAN: And there is, if you want to  
10 draw anything on there that would help.

11 MS. BUELL: It is right here, there was  
12 probably three people, three or four people here,  
13 three or four here and I think there was a couple  
14 standing in between the bait station and this, I was  
15 up on the flying bridge. I think there was a few  
16 people back sitting on the fish box. And apparently  
17 there was some people downstairs.

18 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Thank you.

19 MS. BUELL: And Douglas had the wheel on the  
20 five inch, and I was just to his left, sitting on  
21 the bench up there.

22 MS. KEEGAN: Is that up here?

23 MS. BUELL: Yes.

24 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

25 MS. BUELL: It is right here, and he was  
26 standing, I was on the other side of him.

1 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. I am sorry to interrupt  
2 you.

3 MS. BUELL: No problem.

4 MS. KEEGAN: It just helps to clarify these  
5 things.

6 MS. BUELL: Sure. As good as possible.

7 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Go ahead.

8 MS. BUELL: Okay. So, we started to make our  
9 way out, and we had noticed when the other boats  
10 went out, if you waited until it looked good, you  
11 wouldn't get there in time for it to be good, so you  
12 had to kind of inch out there while it wasn't good.

13 And then, it is all about timing, so, I guess he  
14 thought that it was going to be a flat spot soon.  
15 So, we started going out there. We were pretty close  
16 to the north jetty and we were probably just pass  
17 the tip when we hit a pretty good size wave, and he  
18 had to back up to go with the wave a little bit, so  
19 we didn't go flying off the other end. Doug kind of  
20 backed up and the boat twisted a little bit to the  
21 north, the bough was facing the north a little bit.

22 And the swell was coming pretty much from the west.

23 And so we made it down over it. He said, oh, I  
24 didn't want to get into this. And I said, no.

25 So, we went back down.

26 MS. KEEGAN: Take your time.

1 (Pause.)

2 MS. KEEGAN: You take your time, okay.

3 (Pause.)

4 MS. BUELL: Should I keep talking --

5 MS. KEEGAN: Hold on a minute. Do you want  
6 some, do you need something to drink other than what  
7 you have there.

8 MS. BUELL: No.

9 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. I wanted to tell you,  
10 too, that someone from the Red Cross is going to be  
11 coming over to talk to you.

12 MS. BUELL: Okay.

13 MS. KEEGAN: As far as what you have been  
14 through and try to help you.

15 MS. BUELL: Okay. I have had a lot of people  
16 doing that.

17 MS. KEEGAN: Yes. Have you?

18 MS. BUELL: Yes. I mean, I have had a lot  
19 of people come, but I haven't really to talked to  
20 anybody yet.

21 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

22 MS. BUELL: I got a --

23 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Good. It helps. And I  
24 think it helps, too, to talk about these things.

25 MS. BUELL: Yeah.

26 MS. KEEGAN: So, and I really, really

1 appreciate that you wanted to talk to us.

2 MS. BUELL: Yes.

3 MS. KEEGAN: So soon.

4 (Pause.)

5 MS. KEEGAN: When you were talking about,  
6 you said the dinette and the life preservers were  
7 underneath in the dinette area.

8 MS. BUELL: There are two benches, to the  
9 table, there are the two benches on either side of  
10 the table and they labeled right on the side here,  
11 the number of adults or child, life jacket under  
12 each one. There is a cushion and then a board, you  
13 have to work them off to get the life jackets out.

14 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Thank you.

15 MS. BUELL: Okay.

16 MS. KEEGAN: You want a tissue?

17 MS. BUELL: That is fine.

18 (Pause.)

19 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Do you remember where you  
20 were at?

21 MS. BUELL: Yes.

22 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

23 MS. BUELL: Okay. When we were going over  
24 the first wave, it kind of got us tilted, when he  
25 backed up, I saw the wave coming and I told  
26 everybody to hold on, I didn't look back to see

1 where everybody was, I said, hold on. And I grabbed  
2 onto the boat and we went over it and the, okay, I  
3 was telling somebody that that was probably about  
4 nine or ten foot wave. But, right on the other side  
5 of it, right on the backside of it, I saw a huge one  
6 building and it was really steep and it was coming  
7 straight at us. And somehow, I am really not clear  
8 on how this happened, whether it was the captain  
9 that had turned the boat or whether we were still  
10 turning from sliding down the back of the wave, but  
11 somehow we got completely sideways to it. And my  
12 first impression was that he was trying to turn the  
13 boat around to ride with it. But, we got  
14 completely sideways to the wave and by the time it  
15 was real close, I could tell that we were going to  
16 go over. And it was probably about 12 to 15 feet  
17 because I was looking up at it. And it just smashed  
18 in the side of the boat and went over and, I knew it  
19 was going to go over, so it just went straight over.

20 I don't know where it landed on me or not. I heard  
21 it, and somehow I touched the boat, so it may have  
22 pushed me down.

23 MS. KEEGAN: You touched the bottom of --

24 MS. BUELL: I believe it was the boat of the  
25 ocean.

26 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

1 MS. BUELL: And I started -- that had fallen  
2 off of it.

3 MS. KEEGAN: Let me just make sure I  
4 understand. What side of the boat did the wave hit?

5 MS. BUELL: The port --

6 MS. KEEGAN: And which side --

7 MS. BUELL: It was the port side, and it  
8 just went straight over, the wave was coming, we  
9 were facing north, it was coming from the west and  
10 hit our port side straight one and we just went  
11 straight over. And then I hit the bottom and came  
12 back to the top and I was trying to catch the back,  
13 I looked around and I could see a lot of things  
14 floating in the water and people. One man popped up  
15 next to me, probably 10 or 20 feet away and was  
16 looking around and saying does anybody need help.  
17 And this woman was crying for help, I saw the boat  
18 overturned, inside of me, east of me, 50 to 100  
19 feet, I don't know how far it was. I saw that the  
20 life raft had come up and it was sitting pretty  
21 close to the boat. It was, this all happened so  
22 fast, I am not sure if I am getting everything  
23 exactly in sequence, but, I saw, I think three  
24 people on the life raft and a couple of others  
25 around the boat, I think floating and I, I had to  
26 take off my jacket and I was taking off my boots and

1 the waves are coming fast. And I was trying to yell  
2 and I yelled to some of the passengers to take off  
3 their boots, but I don't know how many heard me.  
4 Probably two that was in hearing distance.

5 And I told them to take off their boots and  
6 their pants and anything that was holding them down.  
7 And I got my pants off, and I -- And there was a lot  
8 of, a lot of -- And the waves kept coming, it was  
9 kind of interrupted, you know, what I could see and  
10 what I couldn't see. And I was trying to get the  
11 raft, it was probably about 50 feet away, but the  
12 current was too strong, I couldn't get to it. And  
13 there was some people floating and some people  
14 swimming.

15 And -- And so from then I was just trying  
16 to get air, I didn't see anything.

17 MS. KEEGAN: Are you a swimmer? Are you a  
18 strong swimmer?

19 MS. BUELL: I am kind of, a pretty good  
20 swimmer. I am, yeah, a pretty good swimmer.

21 MS. KEEGAN: I am just trying to get a feel  
22 for how strong the current was and, and --

23 MS. BUELL: I don't know.

24 MS. KEEGAN: And if --

25 MS. BUELL: I don't think anybody that was  
26 in my position, I don't think that they made it, or

1 could have made it to the life raft, it was pretty  
2 strong. With the waves pounding and that life raft  
3 and the boat catching waves --

4 MS. KEEGAN: Did you have a life vest on?

5 MS. BUELL: No.

6 MS. KEEGAN: Did you observe any other  
7 passengers with life vests on?

8 MS. BUELL: One man was wearing orange, and  
9 I couldn't tell if it was a life vest or it was a  
10 just jacket, because I think he was wearing an  
11 orange jacket. Other than that, I saw three people  
12 on the raft, and there was a lot of people -- quite  
13 a ways, further away to the outside. It was three  
14 or four of them.

15 (Pause.)

16 MS. BUELL: So, I couldn't see if anybody  
17 had life jackets on.

18 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

19 MS. BUELL: I was just trying to float. And  
20 I couldn't, after a little bit of the waves going  
21 over, I didn't -- I saw the Coast Guard boat way  
22 outside of us, but, it was way too far away. And I  
23 knew nobody was going to get to us -- Do you want me  
24 to keep going?

25 MS. KEEGAN: Yes. I want you to keep on  
26 talking until, when you were rescued and --

1 MS. BUELL: Okay.

2 MS. KEEGAN: -- got taken to the hospital  
3 or wherever you were taken to.

4 MS. BUELL: Okay. Well, the waves just kept  
5 pounding over and tumbling me and I didn't know  
6 which I was going or anything. I wasn't really  
7 thinking about that. I was getting pretty, really,  
8 really tired and I could barely move anymore. And  
9 by that time I had gotten my pants off. So all I  
10 had on was a top and really heavy sweatshirt. And  
11 I couldn't get it off, it was too tight. So, I was  
12 just trying to keep my face above the water. And I  
13 was so tired. And then I felt something with my  
14 stroke and I thought it was, I had been bumping into  
15 people and bodies, and I thought it was a body and  
16 then I opened my eyes and I think I just registered  
17 what I was seeing -- standing, well, not really  
18 standing, but, so I couldn't really rock, but I kind  
19 of let a wave take me in to where I could crawl and  
20 when I was I going back out, you know how it comes  
21 in and sucks back out.

22 MS. KEEGAN: Yes.

23 MS. BUELL: Holding onto this, trying not to  
24 let it suck me back out. And I could see people  
25 running around on the beach. And people were  
26 coming out of the water. I don't know, I just saw a

1 lot of stuff, and I couldn't tell what it was. And  
2 I was yelling for somebody, I don't know if I was  
3 really yelling but I felt like I was. And somebody  
4 came and got me and picked me up and dragged me up  
5 into the shallow water. And a few people picked me  
6 up, just really patchy in here, I don't really  
7 remember much of it than that. Put me in the back  
8 of car, and my mom was there, and they took me to  
9 the hospital.

10 MS. KEEGAN: Was this someone that you  
11 didn't know that drove you to the hospital?

12 MS. BUELL: No, it was Jeff Bounds, he is  
13 the --

14 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

15 MS. BUELL: And -- they hadn't gone out that  
16 day, I think they were out watching and the boats go  
17 by, and -- And Joe Hagensaw(ph) was there, and --  
18 And there was a lot of other people, a lot of things  
19 going on and pulling people out, but I don't  
20 remember much of that.

21 MS. KEEGAN: Who was pulling people out?

22 MS. BUELL: The people that had been  
23 watching. Everybody at the jetty part watching, had  
24 ran down to the beach and --

25 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

26 MS. BUELL: -- standing around and pulling.

1 MS. KEEGAN: Was there any other boats out  
2 there?

3 MS. BUELL: Apparently, I think the D&D, I  
4 don't remember, I didn't see any. All I saw was the  
5 Coast Guard boat, but I have been told that the D&D  
6 came back a little bit, but they couldn't really do  
7 anything.

8 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Why is that?

9 MS. BUELL: We were all in too shallow. I  
10 knew that the Coast Guard couldn't even get in  
11 there. I don't know if the helicopter had gotten  
12 there, that went through my head, that maybe they  
13 were -- I don't know if they --

14 MS. KEEGAN: What injuries were you treated  
15 for at the hospital?

16 MS. BUELL: Hypothermia. I had a really bad  
17 headache, but I didn't know if I had bumped my head  
18 or anything. So, they gave me a couple -- and they  
19 had given me a CAT scan. And I had two bumps --

20 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Did you stay overnight in  
21 the hospital?

22 MS. BUELL: No, I got in there --

23 (Pause.)

24 MS. BUELL: -- something like nine o'clock,  
25 I think is when I got in there to the hospital. It  
26 might have been a little earlier. But, I am not

1       sure. It was sometime early in the morning. And  
2       then they moved me out of the emergency room and --  
3       ended upstairs and they kept me there, they checked  
4       me out about two, it seems like -- I know that now,  
5       about 6:30.

6               MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Let's see if that is all  
7       the questions I have.

8               Remember back when you talking about the  
9       Captain as he talks to the passengers and you said  
10      that he mentioned to all the passengers if anyone  
11      wanted to put on a life jacket, they could. Do you  
12      remember if anybody put on a life jacket?

13              MS. BUELL: Nobody did.

14              MS. KEEGAN: Nobody did.

15              MS. BUELL: No.

16              MS. KEEGAN: Is there any point in the  
17      conversation with the passengers or with them making  
18      reservation that it was asked if they swim or not,  
19      if they are swimmers or --

20              MS. BUELL: (inaudible)

21              MS. KEEGAN: When the waves hit you, and you  
22      were on the upper --

23              MS. BUELL: Flying bridge.

24              MS. KEEGAN: -- flying bridge, did it, what  
25      happened, how did you end up in the water? I mean,  
26      do you recall?

1 MS. BUELL: I am not really positive, but, I  
2 just remember the boat going completely over like  
3 this and I was in the air, and I don't know if the  
4 boat, I don't know if I was thrown, I think if I was  
5 thrown, I wouldn't have hit the bottom, so I  
6 remember thinking this boat is going to hit me  
7 because the wall comes up right next to where I was  
8 sitting, about this high and then at the rail over  
9 that.

10 MS. KEEGAN: I am not sure what you mean.

11 MS. BUELL: This wall right here.

12 MS. KEEGAN: Yes.

13 MS. BUELL: Well, the seat is right about  
14 here. So, there is a foot and a half of this right  
15 next to me, I can put my arm on it like this, you  
16 know, and so I was thinking and I was holding on  
17 there, underneath the dash end of it. I was thinking  
18 that the boat was going to hit me when I went over,  
19 but, I can't remember whether it did or whether I  
20 was thrown, but I remember the first time I went  
21 under the water, I hit the bottom or something.  
22 But, I am pretty sure it wasn't the boat because I  
23 was going down. I didn't hit it very hard. I  
24 didn't feel like anything was crushing me, though,  
25 so I don't know what happened.

26 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. I am going to go around

1 the room at this point, and see if there are any  
2 questions.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have got something.

4 MS. BUELL: Yes.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: About what time did  
6 you load on the boat, do you remember?

7 MS. BUELL: We check in 5:30, we usually  
8 leave at about six. It may have been a little  
9 later, it might have been between six and 6:15. I  
10 remember looking at my watch when we got out there  
11 and it was about 6:20 when we got out to the bar.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: At the bar.

13 MS. BUELL: To wait, yeah.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In reference to the  
15 tower.

16 MS. BUELL: When we were waiting?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, was it somewhere  
18 near the tower?

19 MS. BUELL: It was, yeah, we kind of would  
20 go real slow, about from the tower, out to the,  
21 obviously not the end of the jetty. The two bigger  
22 boats, the Oakland Pilot were waiting out a little  
23 further and the D&D and the Taki Too were waiting in  
24 a little further. And then we kept edging close to  
25 the jetty so we circle around and come back up, zoom  
26 in, go up around that and circle around and come

1 back, probably made six circles.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. And you, as  
3 part of the current and stuff like that, were you  
4 looking, you, guys, know the entrance pretty good,  
5 right?

6 MS. BUELL: Yes.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And did you or the  
8 Captain check on weather conditions, bar conditions  
9 or anything like that?

10 MS. BUELL: Well, everybody, they would  
11 listen to it in the office. My dad did, he wasn't  
12 going out that day, but everybody knew it was going  
13 to be bad and everybody knew, all the captains knew  
14 they were going to have to wait for the tide to  
15 switch and we were just, Doug and I were sitting up  
16 there kind of pointing out the places, oh, there is  
17 a spot, we could go out now. And then it just  
18 closed up -- we actually looked at the south jetty  
19 and right -- that is about when the D&D went, we  
20 were looking at the south jetty and it had started  
21 to calm down a little over there. And, but we  
22 didn't consider going out that side, because it is  
23 quite a bit worse most of the time.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. And you guys,  
25 you live here, you are familiar with the bar.

26 MS. BUELL: Oh, yes. Actually this is my

1 fifth year as deck hand.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Was it like foggy in  
3 the morning.

4 MS. BUELL: No, it wasn't foggy.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You didn't hear the  
6 fog horn going off or anything like that?

7 MS. BUELL: I heard the whistle go off, but  
8 I think that was the -- Right, that is the --

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, but you heard  
10 that when you guys got out there.

11 MS. BUELL: Oh, yeah, we could see, you  
12 could see it very far. You could see.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I saw a picture --

14 MS. BUELL: Yes, it was overcast, but it was  
15 pretty clear, so you could see out a ways and  
16 everything. The only thing that was blocking, with  
17 the waves, right where it hit us, was the north  
18 jetty, so we had towards the middle of the bar, to  
19 kind of be able to see around that corner a little  
20 bit. But, we still couldn't quite see all the way  
21 around it until we were out there.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. There is a  
23 buoy marker out there, just outside the bar  
24 entrance.

25 MS. BUELL: Off the south --

26 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: On the south side,

1 out a little ways.

2 MS. BUELL: Yes.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could you see that  
4 when you guys were circling, could you see that buoy  
5 marker?

6 MS. BUELL: The south?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

8 MS. BUELL: Yes, well, when the waves  
9 weren't blocking it.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, yeah.

11 MS. BUELL: You could see the top of it.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When you were --

13 MS. BUELL: Yes.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You could actually  
15 see out that far.

16 MS. BUELL: Yes, oh, yes, we could see out  
17 to the, there are three buoys -- and the T buoy, I  
18 believe, and we could, I could definitely see the  
19 middle one, the inside one, I really didn't look at  
20 the outside one, but there were so many waves out  
21 there, I don't think we could have seen it.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And you were trying  
23 to get through there when it was kind of calm and  
24 pick your spot?

25 MS. BUELL: Yeah, yeah.

26 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: As far as life

1 jackets, it was asked and I think you said no one  
2 had them on. Are they easy to get to? They weren't  
3 locked up or anything?

4 MS. BUELL: Oh, no, no.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- passed on them or  
6 anything.

7 MS. BUELL: There is, the seat pad, a foam  
8 pad about that big, and that lifts up and then there  
9 is a board that just sits down inside a crevance, so  
10 it is flat, there is a little hole that you poke  
11 your finger in, and you lift that up and the vests  
12 are -- You lift up the end of the seat, that  
13 cushion, there is a big label there that says, cabin  
14 adult life jackets, three children or something like  
15 that, and then on the other side it says how many,  
16 and adult, children.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you check, because  
18 I am kind of a little bit new at some of this stuff,  
19 do you check those daily before you go out?

20 MS. BUELL: No, but they inspected by the  
21 Coast Guard before we are allowed to go out each  
22 year. And most of the time we don't get them out.  
23 I had gotten some out, how long ago was that, and we  
24 had a, there were some kids onboard and they wanted  
25 their life jackets, so I had gotten some out and  
26 made sure they were all put back in there, and made

1       sure there was the right amount in the, that side.  
2       I didn't check the other side because they hadn't  
3       used any. I pretty much know when anybody uses them  
4       because pretty much nobody ever does and if they  
5       want to, then they usually ask me.

6               UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You do your pre trip  
7       inspection --

8               MS. BUELL: What do you mean?

9               UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Making sure that your  
10       fueled, have oil --

11              MS. BUELL: They usually do that, the  
12       captain usually does that and he will check the fuel  
13       usually when we come in, and fill it up after we  
14       come in from a trip for the next one. He will  
15       usually check the oil in the morning. My dad, I  
16       think my dad had gotten on and checked it that  
17       morning.

18              UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

19              MS. BUELL: I remember him getting on and  
20       putting some oil in.

21              UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. So, he goes  
22       around checks and makes sure everything is okay.

23              MS. BUELL: Pretty much just the oil, I  
24       mean, we don't really look at the life jackets and  
25       the first aid kit, unless it has been used, and  
26       everything stays the same. So, there is not very

1 much reason to check it.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And up on the fly  
3 bridge, is like for the operator, is that chair or  
4 is it a bench that is up there?

5 MS. BUELL: There is a bench, but a chair  
6 seat on top of it, right in front of the wheel, so  
7 Doug was sitting in the seat and I was sitting on  
8 the bench next to him.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. And as far as  
10 you know everything was working okay with it, the  
11 wheel  
12 and --

13 MS. BUELL: Yeah, actually my dad had just  
14 fixed the --

15 (Change of tape.)

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: At any time did Doug  
17 ever suggest maybe not continuing on with the trip,  
18 coming back?

19 MS. BUELL: No.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And you are cutting  
21 circles and you are watching all these other boats  
22 go across the bar and some little hairy spots there.

23 What was the mood of the passengers? How were the  
24 passengers reacting to that? Were they worried or -

25 -

26 MS. BUELL: They seemed kind of excited, oh,

1       wow, the other boat is going, okay.     And everybody  
2       wanted to watch, you know, and I have had a lot more  
3       scared customers than them before.     They didn't seem  
4       real scared.     They just were --

5                     UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They didn't look that  
6       frightened.

7                     MS. BUELL: No, they just seemed excited,  
8       you know.     Wow, this is the biggest bar I have seen.  
9       We have been out when other boats haven't been out  
10      there.     Some of them had been out before, and some  
11      of them hadn't.

12                    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, the passengers  
13      that you had observed, did anyone have anything,  
14      maybe voice any type of concern about the bar, it  
15      was just pretty much general excitement?

16                    MS. BUELL: I think one guy said, oh, if we  
17      don't get out, I will go back and go bass fishing.  
18      So, that was about it.     He didn't seem like, well,  
19      maybe we shouldn't go out, you know, he seemed  
20      pretty optimistic about it.

21                    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have one other  
22      question.

23                    Now, at this point, I know you said you  
24      were in between the tips of the jetty when you took  
25      the first wave.

26                    MS. BUELL: Yeah, we were fairly close to

1 the north jetty, though.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. So, then the  
3 north --

4 MS. BUELL: Yeah.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And you are trying to  
6 come out.

7 MS. BUELL: Yes.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Through the north  
9 hole. Where you were in relation to the jetty when  
10 you actually took the --

11 MS. BUELL: I believe that we were just  
12 north of it. Now, the Coast Guard tower may have  
13 something different to say about that, but from  
14 where I was sitting, I thought that we had made it  
15 pass the end of the jetty. We were west and north  
16 of it, not very far north of it, though.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- really thorough, I  
18 don't really have a lot of questions. I think that  
19 was about it. That is it.

20 I think one question, though -- would be a  
21 question that I would ask.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Please.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How was Doug feeling  
24 that morning, how was his mood when you got  
25 underway, was he --

26 MS. BUELL: He seemed just like normal,

1 happy day, you know, he was happy. And I think he  
2 was glad to be running the boat. He seemed, his  
3 speech, he was making jokes and it was just Doug and  
4 he turned around in the corner and he was like, oh,  
5 man, look at that bar, you know, just kind of joking  
6 around as usual, you know, he seemed just like Doug.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And how long had you  
8 worked with him?

9 MS. BUELL: I actually worked with him, I  
10 started out with him, my first year, so I worked  
11 with him, maybe half a summer, and then I worked for  
12 my brother for three years after that on the  
13 Norwester, and then I came back to the Taki Too just  
14 this year, but I have been working with my dad most  
15 of this year. I think this is just the first trip I  
16 have taken with Doug this year.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. But, you have  
18 worked with him before?

19 MS. BUELL: I worked with him before. And I  
20 have taken just a trip here and there with him, you  
21 know, and pretty familiar with the way he handles  
22 the boat.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And you were the only  
24 crew?

25 MS. BUELL: Yes.

26 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. That is all I

1 have. Thank you.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have a couple. How  
3 were the passengers, were they appropriately  
4 dressed, I mean, did they have rain gear, boots?

5 MS. BUELL: Some of them had, the ones that  
6 had been before were in rain gear and boots and I  
7 remember they were joking about one guy that said,  
8 oh, you don't have any rain gear on and he had a  
9 sweatshirt and jeans. And most people were dressed  
10 for warm, you know, they were coats and heavy pants.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.

12 MS. BUELL: And boots and --

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. In your  
14 brochures do they ever mention that, dress for the  
15 weather or --

16 MS. BUELL: They always say when you call,  
17 they say, okay, best to wear layers, you know, it  
18 usually gets kind of cold and then you can take them  
19 off later and water proof shoes if you have them.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you remember the  
21 captain taking out one of the life jackets and  
22 showing people how to put them or anything?

23 MS. BUELL: No, what they, there is placard  
24 down in the cabin that shows how to do that. And  
25 also he usually says, I don't remember if he said it  
26 this time, but he usually says, you know, if you

1 need help, ask myself or the deck hand. And so,  
2 usually people, if they do put them on, they usually  
3 ask me how to put them on.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right. I can't  
5 think of anything else. Thank you.

6 MS. BUELL: Yes.

7 MS. KEEGAN: Do you want to continue then  
8 with your group's questions and then, how do you  
9 want to work that?

10 MR. WOODY: Do you want to take another run?

11 MS. KEEGAN: Well, I just have a couple of  
12 more questions.

13 MR. WOODY: Why don't you go ahead and do  
14 that?

15 MS. BUELL: Okay.

16 MS. KEEGAN: Everybody asking, that is kind  
17 of the way this works.

18 MS. BUELL: Okay.

19 MS. KEEGAN: Sorry.

20 MS. BUELL: That is all right.

21 MS. KEEGAN: I think, it sounded as though  
22 some of these passengers frequent, that they --

23 MS. BUELL: Yes.

24 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

25 MS. BUELL: They had requested Doug. I know  
26 they had been out the last two or three years at

1 least because they were talking about the deck hand,  
2 one of my friends, Jack, that had deck handed  
3 before. They were talking about him.

4 MS. KEEGAN: How often do you see that? I  
5 mean, what is the percentage of passengers that come  
6 back and continue to fish? I thought this was a one  
7 time thing. That surprised me.

8 MS. BUELL: Oh, no.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I do all the booking.

10 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And we have lots of  
12 people come back here --

13 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. Okay. Do you know like  
14 what percentage of returnees?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Of returnees? Well,  
16 now if you are talking halibut, 80 percent.

17 MS. KEEGAN: That is bottom fishing.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The main question was  
19 what are we fishing.

20 MS. BUELL: Oh, bottom fishing, lake tackle.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When you are talking  
22 bottom fishing, 30 percent.

23 MS. BUELL: Twenty five.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Twenty five to 30.

25 And many people return, come with another group,  
26 they return with --

1 MS. KEEGAN: And so you were bottom fishing  
2 this time?

3 MS. BUELL: Yes.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right tackle bottom  
5 fishing.

6 MS. KEEGAN: What kind of fish?

7 MS. BUELL: There is Black Sea fish and  
8 sometimes Ling cod, mostly it is, we were going  
9 south to Ling cod.

10 MS. KEEGAN: Ling cod?

11 MS. BUELL: Ling cod.

12 MS. KEEGAN: Ling --

13 MS. BUELL: L-I-N-G, cod. And sometimes we  
14 go, like canary or whatever, but that is, mostly the  
15 Black Sea bass is what they are going for on these  
16 trips.

17 MS. KEEGAN: What is the safety equipment  
18 that you have onboard? For instance, life vests,  
19 what other safety equipment?

20 MS. BUELL: Life rings, life jackets, life  
21 raft.

22 MS. KEEGAN: I think you had mentioned that.

23 MS. BUELL: Those three.

24 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

25 MS. BUELL: And then first aid kits -- kits,  
26 fire extinguishers in every compartment.

1 MS. KEEGAN: How many fire extinguishers?

2 MS. BUELL: One in the, I think there is two  
3 in the cabin, I believe and there is probably one in  
4 the engine room. So, I believe there is one up  
5 around the front in the fore peak and I believe  
6 there is one in the cabin.

7 MS. KEEGAN: Okay.

8 MS. BUELL: On the wall by the stairs.

9 MS. KEEGAN: So, that would make it four?

10 MS. BUELL: I think there is, I think there  
11 is three. There maybe one in the restroom, too, I  
12 am not sure. I know there is one here in the fore  
13 peak area, and there is one, I believe there is one  
14 right here, and I think there is one in the engine  
15 room and I am not sure if there is one in the  
16 restroom.

17 MS. KEEGAN: Okay. You were talking about  
18 circling, is it getting warm in here?

19 It was so weird coming from Washington,  
20 D.C. to here because I didn't know what to expect  
21 the weather and --

22 MS. BUELL: You never know.

23 MS. KEEGAN: And that is a real challenge,  
24 when we travel all over the place. So, I really  
25 packed a lot of sweaters and --

26 Okay. You were talking about you circled

1 around and you were trying to get a vantage point  
2 for trying to figure out what is it going to be like  
3 going across the bar.

4 MS. BUELL: Yes.

5 MS. KEEGAN: I am just wondering in the  
6 past, have you ever turned back because it was too  
7 bad?

8 MS. BUELL: Yes. Yes.

9 MS. KEEGAN: How often have you experienced  
10 that kind of conditions?

11 MS. BUELL: Not very often. How many times  
12 --

13 (Pause.)

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I believe there has  
15 been two days so far this year that we have turned  
16 back. We usually average maybe five or six days we  
17 can't get out because of the weather and the bar is  
18 in bad condition.

19 MS. BUELL: And the Captains aren't shy  
20 about going back if they feel that it is unsafe, you  
21 know, even if one of them thinks it is safe and the  
22 other one says, I don't think I would want to do  
23 this, they will not do it, you know, it is  
24 completely up to each captain and they confidence in  
25 their skills.

26 MS. KEEGAN: And how many total years have

1 you been a deck hand?

2 MS. BUELL: This is my fifth year doing it.

3 MS. KEEGAN: What are your duties as a deck  
4 hand?

5 MS. BUELL: Welcoming the people on the  
6 boat, untying the boat and getting it ready to go  
7 out, by taking the fenders off, setting up the  
8 fishing poles, teaching the people how to fish, and  
9 bringing their fish onboard, making sure that  
10 everybody has their questions answered and you know,  
11 making sure that everybody feels comfortable, you  
12 know, and I am not going to stand there and pat  
13 their back when they are throwing up, but, you know,  
14 making sure that everybody has got everything they  
15 need, and to be safe and comfortable as they can.

16 MS. KEEGAN: Thank you very much. You have  
17 been wonderful.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You do have a few  
19 more from me? Well, you have a diagram, I believe  
20 of the -- MS. BUELL: Yes.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If I could, I would  
22 like for you to just show me a few -- and mark  
23 yourself and the captain. Where were the people on  
24 the boat when you first, before you encountered any  
25 trouble? And can you tell me, you know, where the  
26 folks went after that first big scary wave that got

1       you?

2                   MS. BUELL: I didn't look backwards. I was  
3 looking at the next wave, yeah. I am going to mark  
4 this with the bench up here. This is on the flying  
5 bridge, this isn't down in the cabin. This is just  
6 a chair and the captain at the wheel. Okay. Here is  
7 Doug and --

8                   (Pause.)

9                   MS. BUELL: This is the fish box. I think  
10 we had two or three on here. And there is a little  
11 bit of a ledge that sticks out and then there is the  
12 rail that comes along here. So, I believe there  
13 were a couple of people sitting right here.

14                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And were they --

15                   MS. BUELL: Oh, no. Doug said he was going  
16 to insist that everybody stay seated over the bar  
17 this morning. He said that in his speech.

18                   There was one right here, but then he sat  
19 down later, after Doug said everybody sit down,  
20 because we are going. There was one inside, and I  
21 am not really sure where the other people were.

22                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. This is  
23 basically right --

24                   MS. BUELL: This is right --

25                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Attempted to go over  
26 the bar.

1 MS. BUELL: Yes.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Cross the bar and  
3 then you --

4 MS. BUELL: And then, we took the first  
5 swell, I said hang on, I kind of yelled it back over  
6 my shoulder, I said, after the first swell, but then  
7 I was looking at the next swell and I never saw  
8 where anybody was.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

10 MR. WOODY: Do you want her to put name on  
11 it?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, please, if you  
13 could.

14 MS. BUELL: I put my name at the top.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Have you signed it  
16 and dated it?

17 MS. BUELL: Oh, okay.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Kind of your  
19 rendition.

20 (Pause.)

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

22 MS. KEEGAN: Anything else?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That is all I have,  
24 thank you.

25 MR. WOODY: Most of my questions have been  
26 answered and -- getting it down one time.

1                   You mentioned Doug, you had been with Doug  
2 your first year.

3                   MS. BUELL: Yes.

4                   MR. WOODY: What boat were you on at that  
5 time?

6                   MS. BUELL: The Taki Too.

7                   MR. WOODY: The Taki too.

8                   MS. BUELL: Yes.

9                   MR. WOODY: Is the Taki Too his normal  
10 regular boat?

11                   MS. BUELL: Yes, he ran that boat when he  
12 owned the office, and then also when he sold it to  
13 us, he ran it. He shared it with my dad.

14                   MR. WOODY: I see.

15                   MS. BUELL: And he took most of, most of the  
16 trips or a lot of the trips the first year and then  
17 kind of been tapering down and now it is just,  
18 mostly if we get a request for him.

19                   MR. WOODY: I see then, he is not normally -

20 -

21                   MS. BUELL: Not this year. I don't think he  
22 is. He has maybe one or -- Did he do Halibut, oh, I  
23 wasn't there for that. He has taken a few, several  
24 trips.

25                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He was just one or  
26 two days a week --

1 MS. BUELL: Oh, okay.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I am glad you are  
3 here.

4 MS. BUELL: Yeah, she is a keeper.

5 (Pause.)

6 MR. WOODY: Okay. And you said that Doug  
7 seemed to be his onself that day.

8 MS. BUELL: Yes.

9 MR. WOODY: Was he in good health, normally,  
10 was he on any kind of medication, diabetes or  
11 something like that?

12 MS. BUELL: I don't know about that. You  
13 would have to ask --

14 MR. WOODY: He didn't complain that day  
15 about any kind of, or not feeling up to par?

16 MS. BUELL: Oh, no.

17 MR. WOODY: Now, I was trying to follow when  
18 you were talking to Officer Vitus' questions about  
19 where the boat was at and you mentioned the tower,  
20 and then you mentioned the tips. When you are  
21 making these turns around, was that between the  
22 tower and the tips of the jetties?

23 MS. BUELL: Yeah, we didn't quite get all  
24 the way to the tips. We were probably between the  
25 tower to the end of the jetty, we went from the  
26 tower about three quarters of the way to the end of

1 the jetty and then back around.

2 MR. WOODY: I see.

3 MS. BUELL: So, we would circle back up by  
4 the north jetty and just kind of wait there a little  
5 bit and then if it would like we were too close to  
6 the jetty, then we would come out a little bit and  
7 if we got up too far, then we circled around and  
8 went back that way.

9 MR. WOODY: You mentioned that you had been  
10 you had been first year with Doug and then you had  
11 two years with your brother, is that what it was?

12 MS. BUELL: Three, I think.

13 MR. WOODY: Three with your brother.

14 MS. BUELL: Yes.

15 MR. WOODY: And then you have been with your  
16 father for some time, that would have been the last,  
17 the fifth year was with your father.

18 MS. BUELL: That is this year.

19 MR. WOODY: This year?

20 MS. BUELL: Yeah. I have worked for my  
21 father before just off and on, you know, but this is  
22 the first year that I have worked specifically for  
23 him on the Taki Too.

24 MR. WOODY: And is this a year round job  
25 that you have?

26 MS. BUELL: It is summer.

1 MR. WOODY: Summer time.

2 MS. BUELL: Yeah.

3 MR. WOODY: And what do you do in the winter  
4 time?

5 MS. BUELL: School. I went to school. I  
6 just graduated, so this is probably going to be my  
7 last year.

8 MR. WOODY: I see.

9 How many would you say the cabin would  
10 hold? Could you put some dots around here, but just  
11 thinking if you are putting dots down with people,  
12 how many people could be in the cabin without being  
13 terribly crowded?

14 MS. BUELL: Well, you can probably fit three  
15 on each one of these seats. I have had all in the  
16 cabin before, and it is crowded.

17 MR. WOODY: Crowded.

18 MS. BUELL: And this is not completely  
19 accurate anymore. There is another bench seat right  
20 here, that would probably hold three to four people.

21

22 MR. WOODY: You are pointing to the  
23 starboard side of the cabin.

24 MS. BUELL: Yes. So, there is a bench seat  
25 right when you come down here. And then however  
26 many people you can fit in there standing.

1           MR. WOODY: So, on the benches, you have  
2 three on each bench.

3           MS. BUELL: About.

4           MR. WOODY: So that would be six people.

5           MS. BUELL: Right.

6           MR. WOODY: And three people over here.

7           MS. BUELL: Maybe four on this bench.

8           MR. WOODY: One bench.

9           MS. BUELL: Yes.

10          MR. WOODY: So, that is --

11          MS. BUELL: Ten, 10.

12          MR. WOODY: Ten people, yes.    And does it -

13          -

14          MS. BUELL: And then people stand here,  
15 people stand here. You can sit here, but it is not  
16 very comfortable because you have to kind of bend  
17 over a little bit. But, there is a seat here that  
18 Doug, or whoever is the captain, is usually up on  
19 top, so, somebody could sit in that seat.

20          MR. WOODY: When you go across the bar, you  
21 told people to hang on, is that something that you  
22 every time?

23          MS. BUELL: When it is rough.

24          MR. WOODY: When it is rough.

25          MS. BUELL: Yes.

26          MR. WOODY: Okay.

1 MS. BUELL: Whenever I see a particularly  
2 big wave.

3 MR. WOODY: I see.

4 Now, on this area here, the top hatch and  
5 the fish tank, or the fish box, is there a good  
6 place to hang on there?

7 MS. BUELL: You could hang on the edge of  
8 the seat. It is not like rails or anything, but,  
9 there is a place where you can hook your hands under  
10 and hold onto the edge of the seat.

11 MR. WOODY: Okay. You mentioned that, I  
12 heard you say the D&M --

13 MS. BUELL: D&D.

14 MR. WOODY: D&D. Is that like the D and D.

15 MS. BUELL: D and D.

16 MR. WOODY: D&D.

17 MS. BUELL: D&D, yeah.

18 MR. WOODY: D&D, okay.

19 Do you remember whether the engine ever  
20 stopped? Was the engine running up to the very end?

21 MS. BUELL: I don't remember.

22 MR. WOODY: You don't remember.

23 MS. BUELL: No.

24 MR. WOODY: If the engine had stopped, would  
25 that have been something that you would have  
26 noticed?

1 MS. BUELL: While it was, after it flipped  
2 over?

3 MR. WOODY: Let's say you are coming out the  
4 back of the wave, and --

5 MS. BUELL: Oh, the back of the first wave.

6 MR. WOODY: Right. Where you became --

7 MS. BUELL: Oh, the engine didn't stop. I  
8 would have noticed that.

9 MR. WOODY: You would have noticed that.

10 MS. BUELL: Definitely.

11 MR. WOODY: And you said the, coming down  
12 the back of the wave, backside of the wave, the boat  
13 slide around.

14 MS. BUELL: Yes.

15 MR. WOODY: And was pointing, I think you  
16 said north.

17 MS. BUELL: Yes, but I really couldn't tell,  
18 my first thought was that he was trying to turn it,  
19 he was doing something, I was looking at the wave  
20 and he was doing something over here. I couldn't  
21 tell whether he was trying to, he had put it in  
22 forward, I couldn't tell whether he was trying to  
23 turn it so he could get back into the wave, but you  
24 know, my first thought was that he was turning it,  
25 trying to let it follow him in and I thought we are  
26 not going to make it.

1           MR. WOODY: You mean, bring the boat around  
2           to the right or the left?

3           MS. BUELL: To the right, so that it would  
4           break on the back deck, and push us in.

5           MR. WOODY: I see.

6           MS. BUELL: But, we were faced more towards  
7           the wave than away from it. So it would have been  
8           further to go to --

9           MR. WOODY: Around to the right.

10          MS. BUELL: -- around to the right and then  
11          back up into it, but it was so steep that I don't  
12          know what would have happened if we would went into  
13          it. And then I got to thinking about it and I  
14          couldn't really decide whether he had gone ahead and  
15          put it in forward and turned it to the right or  
16          whether we were already turned to the right from  
17          coming off that last wave and that he was trying it  
18          to the left. But, my first thought was that he was  
19          trying to turn it to the right, but, I really  
20          couldn't tell because I was watching the wave.

21          MR. WOODY: You were watching the --

22          MS. BUELL: I was watching the wave going --  
23          He was turning the wheel. I don't know which way it  
24          was going.

25          MR. WOODY: Was there, if you didn't see him  
26          the wheel, would there been anything to indicate

1       which way the rudder was, the position of the  
2       rudder? There is no rudder indicators like that?

3               MS. BUELL: Not on top, I don't think there  
4       is one downstairs, either.

5               MR. WOODY: One thing we always ask is for a  
6       72 hour history. Now this would take you back to  
7       something like Wednesday.

8               MS. BUELL: It is so hard.

9               MR. WOODY: Well, what is your normal  
10      routine.

11              MS. BUELL: Okay. Hold on.

12              MR. WOODY: You are out here working --

13              MS. BUELL: Wednesday, did I go out  
14      Wednesday? Okay. Wednesday and Thursday, it was  
15      really nice, and Ty and I took the boat out, this  
16      was Wednesday, I think, okay. We took it out, we  
17      got up, came up about 11 o'clock, I took the boat  
18      out, first time by myself.

19              MR. WOODY: About 11 o'clock.

20              MS. BUELL: Around and the bar was flat and  
21      the ocean was flat. We dropped off some crab pots.

22              We were fishing, and caught some bass. We came  
23      back in, parked the boat, I don't remember what else  
24      we did that day. Not much. And then we, spent the  
25      night on the boat and not the Taki Too, a sailboat.

26              And got up around 10, I think, and went out and

1 picked up our crab pots, and then came back on.

2 MR. WOODY: Now, was this the sailboat you  
3 took out --

4 MS. BUELL: No, it was the Taki Too boat  
5 that day.

6 MR. WOODY: Taki Too, okay.

7 MS. BUELL: We just stayed on the boat  
8 because it is down here and it is convenient.

9 MR. WOODY: So, the two of you took the boat  
10 out for fishing or did you take passengers out?

11 MS. BUELL: No, no, no. It was my first  
12 trip taking out by myself. I have driven with my  
13 dad and everything, but I asked him if I could take  
14 it out, you know, I am studying for my captain's  
15 license.

16 MR. WOODY: Okay. And then you mentioned on  
17 a sailboat.

18 MS. BUELL: We just slept there. It is tied  
19 up at the dock.

20 MR. WOODY: It is at the dock, okay.

21 MS. BUELL: Yes. We never took it out.

22 MR. WOODY: Okay. So I wouldn't get a sea  
23 report from you on that.

24 MS. BUELL: No, no. And it was real flat  
25 the second day out.

26 MR. WOODY: That takes care of Wednesday,

1 Thursday. How about Friday?

2 MS. BUELL: The morning -- Oh, it was  
3 Friday, I am sorry, that was --

4 MR. WOODY: The last day of the week.

5 MS. BUELL: Thursday and, oh, Saturday, that  
6 was my free Thursday, Friday we had a charter, that  
7 is right. Okay. We had nine people on the charter.

8

9 MR. WOODY: This was Taki Too?

10 MS. BUELL: Yes. And my dad was driving. And  
11 we went to the -- and it was pretty windy and the  
12 drift was kind of bad and we had some young kids  
13 onboard, so we didn't catch a lot of fish, but we  
14 stayed out until about 11 or so, 10:30, 11 and then  
15 we headed back. We were coming out the south.

16 MR. WOODY: Like from six o'clock in the  
17 morning until 11 o'clock, then.

18 MS. BUELL: Yes. Well, we got back in right  
19 around noon, I think.

20 MR. WOODY: Around noon.

21 MS. BUELL: Yes. And the wind was starting  
22 to pick up from the south, not too much swell, if I  
23 remember. We got back in and cleaned the boat, went  
24 home, and Ty left, actually. He had been coming out  
25 on the boat with me on the charters and he went back  
26 home.

1 MR. WOODY: And Ty is your boyfriend.

2 MS. BUELL: Yes.

3 MR. WOODY: And how is Ty spelled?

4 MS. BUELL: T-Y.

5 MR. WOODY: T-Y. Okay.

6 MS. BUELL: And then I went to sleep and got  
7 up in the morning to go fishing.

8 MR. WOODY: How much sleep did you have that  
9 night, do you think?

10 MS. BUELL: I had probably seven and a half,  
11 eight hours.

12 MR. WOODY: Seven half, eight hours.

13 MS. BUELL: That is what I usually get.

14 MR. WOODY: That is what you usually get.  
15 You get seven and a half, eight hours sleep.

16 MS. BUELL: Yes.

17 MR. WOODY: Your hours are fairly regular,  
18 then as far as --

19 MS. BUELL: Yeah, it is hard because when we  
20 have scheduled, then it is pretty regular that I go  
21 bed around eight or nine o'clock at night and then  
22 get up at 4:30 in the morning. But, when I don't  
23 have a trip, I sleep in until seven or eight. But,  
24 I usually don't go to bed real late.

25 MR. WOODY: Let me look back to my notes  
26 here real quick.

1 (Pause.)

2 MR. WOODY: Oh, yes. We would like to also  
3 identify your mother for the record.

4 Your name, please?

5 MRS. BUELL: Linda Buell.

6 MR. WOODY: B-U-E-L-L. Okay. And you have  
7 been here to counsel, let me get your last name --

8 MR. MAUTNER: M-A-U-T-N-E-R.

9 MR. WOODY: M-A-U-T-N-E-R. Mautner. Okay.

10 (Pause.)

11 MR. WOODY: Is there anything we haven't  
12 asked you that you think should know about? That  
13 would help us understand the accident?

14 MS. BUELL: I think I just went through  
15 about every detail I could think of.

16 MR. WOODY: I would like to turn now to my  
17 colleague.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I am going to jump  
19 around a little bit, okay. So, kind of bear with  
20 me.

21 MS. BUELL: Sure.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When you gave us your  
23 phone number, that is a 5-0-3 area code, right?

24 MS. BUELL: Yes.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. I didn't want  
26 to assume anything. I have got a guy working for me

1 who just went and a got a cell phone and evidently  
2 Oregon has some other new third area code, 9-7-1,  
3 that I never even heard of. So, I won't assume  
4 anything.

5 MS. BUELL: Okay.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How old are you?

7 MS. BUELL: Twenty two.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You are 22.

9 And just for us so we can kind of  
10 understand, how old was Doug, how old about was  
11 Doug, do you know? Take a guess?

12 MS. BUELL: I really don't know.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. And how long  
14 had Doug been working as a charter boat captain, to  
15 your knowledge?

16 MS. BUELL: Forever.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Forever. Okay.

18 MS. BUELL: That is my, to my knowledge. He  
19 has had a million bar crossings and he knew --

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Have you had  
21 any formal training as far as your duties as being a  
22 deck hand? I know you mentioned that you are  
23 working on your captain license. Have you been to  
24 any of the schools or classes or anything like that?

25 MS. BUELL: I just learned there was a class  
26 for deck hands, I never knew there was before. Oh,

1 I did CPR, first aid class. And I have a maritime -  
2 - drug part.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The drug testing.

4 MS. BUELL: Yes.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. All right.

6 MS. BUELL: But, no, I didn't, I pretty much  
7 learned on the job.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. And just so  
9 that we understand, when we talk about the season,  
10 when does that start and when does that end?

11 MS. BUELL: Usually it starts in March or  
12 April, but, I usually don't get there until after  
13 school gets out, so that is usually mid May to early  
14 June and the season usually goes to the beginning of  
15 October.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

17 MS. BUELL: The end of October, apparently.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Let me ask you a  
19 little bit about the boat and the equipment on the  
20 boat that morning.

21 MS. BUELL: Sure.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you give us an  
23 indication up here on the flying bridge, what sort  
24 of electronics were there? What was up there?

25 MS. BUELL: There is a combination plotter  
26 and fish finder.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

2 MS. BUELL: And I believe the radar is  
3 included in that new, in that new electronic, so,  
4 pretty much brand new that you can control from top  
5 --

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

7 MS. BUELL: And then there is the wheel, and  
8 there is a troll valve on the left, all the way  
9 around the port side, and then on the starboard  
10 side, there is a gear shift and throttle. And there  
11 are radios up there. There are two radios. I think  
12 there is a CB. I am not sure if that one works.  
13 But, there is VHF radio up there. And I don't  
14 remember whether it was set on scanner --

15 MRS. BUELL: The CB works.

16 MS. BUELL: Okay. So, I don't remember  
17 whether it was on the scan or on 79, which is one  
18 that we monitor, but, there was one downstairs, that  
19 is always on 16. And usually they have the other  
20 one on scanner, so.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. So, the VHF top  
22 was on scanner.

23 MS. BUELL: I don't know if it was on  
24 scanner, on 79, but, even if it was on 79, there is  
25 one on 16 downstairs that you can hear.

26 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, you can hear the

1 one on 16 below.

2 MS. BUELL: Yeah, yeah. Actually I think it  
3 might have been on scanner, because I remember Bob  
4 calling the Coast Guard and telling them when he  
5 would be back.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Is that, is  
7 79 the channel that you guys all work on?

8 MS. BUELL: Yes.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And that is on the  
10 VHF.

11 MS. BUELL: Yes.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you guys talk on  
13 the citizens band as well?

14 MS. BUELL: Oh, sometimes. But, I think  
15 most everybody is using 79, because some of our  
16 microphones, like in the office, I think wasn't  
17 working on the CB, so we usually talk on 79.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, when, when the  
19 Norwester went across and then they called back,  
20 that was on 79.

21 MS. BUELL: Yeah.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

23 MS. BUELL: And they, I had heard him  
24 talking to the Captain of the Oakland Pilot as well.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. So the Oakland  
26 Pilot was on 79 as well.

1 MS. BUELL: Yeah. I not sure if they are  
2 regularly monitor that, but they knew that we  
3 monitored that, so they wanted to talk to us.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, okay.

5 MS. BUELL: They may have that one or the  
6 next scan number.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And so you don't  
8 remember hearing anything from the Oakland Pilot --

9 (End of tape.)