Chattanooga, Tennessee

- 2008 Thomas Built school bus
  - 24-year-old driver
  - 37 students
- Durham School Services
- Hamilton County Department of Education
Crash Sequence

Chattanooga, TN Crash Overview
Crash Sequence

Chattanooga, TN Crash Overview
Scene Photograph

Source: Chattanooga Fire Department
Video Analysis and Crash Simulation Results

- 52-mph in 30-mph speed limit zone
- Excessive speed resulted in loss of control
Injury Information

• Student passengers
  – 6 fatalities
  – 26 serious-to-minor injuries
  – 5 uninjured

• School bus driver
  – Uninjured
On-Scene Staff

- Christopher Hart, then-Chairman
- Jennifer Morrison, Acting Special Assistant
- Robert Accetta, Investigator-in-Charge
- Michele Beckjord, Project Manager
- Kenny Bragg, Human Performance Factors
- Shawn Currie, Motor Carrier Factors
- Jerome Cantrell, Vehicle Factors
- Dan Walsh, PE, Highway Factors
- Thomas Barth, PhD, Survival Factors
- Sheryl Harley, Witness Group
On-Scene Staff (cont’d)

- Robert Squire, Technical Reconstruction
- Erik Strickland, Safety Advocacy
- Jane Foster, Vehicle Recorder
- Christopher O’Neil, Media Relations
- James Anderson, Audiovisual Specialist
- Nicholas Worrell, Safety Advocacy
- Elias Kontanis, PhD, Transportation Disaster Assistance
- Christopher Wallace, Government Affairs
- John Whitener, Computer Services
Report Development Staff

• Michele Beckjord, Project Manager
• Debbie Stocker, Report Editor
• Julie Perrot, Safety Recommendations
• Christy Spangler, Graphics
• Jesus Cudemus, Graphics
• Ivan Cheung, PhD, Data, Mapping
• Eric Emery, PhD, Mapping
• Mary Pat McKay, MD, Medical Factors
• Dan Horak, PhD, Video Analysis
• Shane Lack, Simulation
Parties to Investigation

- Chattanooga Department of Transportation
- Chattanooga Police Department
- Hamilton County Department of Education
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)
Exclusions

- School bus driver licensing or medical certification
- Substance impairment, medical condition, fatigue
- School bus mechanical condition
- Weather
- Roadway design or conditions
Safety Issues

• Oversight of student transportation service providers
• Management of unsafe school bus drivers
• Large school bus occupant protection
• Electronic stability control