## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

## OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES

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Investigation of:

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COCSO BUSAN/BRIDGE ALLISION

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

\* Docket No.: DCA-08-MM-004

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Interview of: MK2 ANDREA R. BIDOWSKI

Sector San Francisco Command Center

Friday, November 30, 2007

The above-captioned matter convened, pursuant to Notice.

BEFORE: LARRY D. BOWLING

#### APPEARANCES:

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# 1 INTERVIEW

- MR. BOWLING: Okay. All right. We're on now. Okay.
- 3 This is Larry Bowling with the NTSB Marine Safety Investigative
- 4 Team. I'm working with the operational cell and the NTSB response
- 5 cell. Today, we're at the Sector San Francisco Command Center,
- 6 and we're going to be interviewing Petty Officer Bidowski. And
- 7 we'll go around and do introductions. To my left is --
- 8 MR. WHEATLEY: Ross Wheatley, senior investigating
- 9 officer, Coast Guard Sector San Francisco.
- 10 LT KING: Lieutenant Jeff King, Coast Guard legal.
- MR. BOWLING: We'll come back to you.
- 12 LT KING: Um-hum.
- CDR SCHAEFER: Scott Schaefer, Coast Guard District 11.
- 14 CAPTAIN HOLLY: Rick Holly, Department of Fish and Game,
- 15 OSPR.
- 16 CAPTAIN TOLEDO: Gary Toledo, Department of Fish and
- 17 Game, OSPR.
- 18 MR. MALONEY: Pat Maloney, Board of Pilot Commissioners.
- 19 MR. SMITH: (indiscernible) Smith, (indiscernible) Area
- 20 Incident Management.
- 21 MS. THOMAS: Crystal Thomas, NTSB Environmental Response
- 22 Group.
- MR. BOWLING: Okay. And today we're going to be
- 24 interviewing Petty Officer Bidowski.
- 25 INTERVIEW OF ANDREA R. BIDOWSKI

- 1 BY MR. BOWLING:
- Q. Petty Officer Bidowski, for the record, can you just
- 3 give me your first name and middle initial and last name?
- 4 A. Andrea R. Bidowski.
- Q. Okay. And would you prefer me to call you Petty Officer
- 6 Bidowski, or can I call you Andrea?
- 7 A. You can just call me Andrea.
- 8 Q. All right. Andrea, what is a good contact number on you
- 9 and a mailing address?
- 10 A. My cell phone is area code -----.
- 11 Q. Okay. And the mailing address, do you want us to use
- 12 the Coast Guard Sector Command Center?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 0. Okay, U.S. Coast Guard, okay. Andrea, we've been trying
- 15 with -- we've interviewed a lot of persons who have been involved
- 16 in one way or the other, had a role in the response and the chain
- 17 of, or flow of communications. Can you tell me from a standpoint
- 18 of just your educational background post-high school up to present
- 19 how -- walk me through how you became a petty officer in the Coast
- 20 Guard from the minute you left high school in a condensed version,
- 21 of course.
- 22 A. Okay. I was 16 when I left high school, graduated with
- 23 my Associates when I was 18, came into the Coast Guard, and that's
- 24 where I've been since.
- 25 Q. Okay. When did you enter into the Coast Guard?

- 1 A. When I was 19.
- Q. What year, though?
- 3 A. '96, '97, I think --
- 4 O. '96? Okay. And your rate right now?
- 5 A. MK2, Petty Officer Second Class.
- 6 Q. All right, an MK2. When did you start your duty at
- 7 Sector San Francisco?
- 8 A. I was over at Prevention prior to Sector, stand up.
- 9 Q. All right. So do you know approximately when you came
- 10 in, when you first --
- 11 A. To the command center?
- 12 Q. Yeah, when you first started your tour -- no, first
- 13 started your tour with Sector San Francisco at Preventions.
- 14 A. 2003.
- 15 Q. 2003?
- 16 A. April, I believe.
- 17 Q. All right. What role were you performing there in
- 18 preventions?
- 19 A. I was getting my qualification to be a foreign vessel
- 20 inspector.
- 21 Q. Okay. So you're working on your port state control
- 22 qualifications?
- 23 A. Right.
- Q. All right. Did you obtain those quals?
- 25 A. No, I did not.

- 1 O. Okay. When did you come over to the --
- 2 A. A year after that.
- Q. A year after that? So around 2004? Was it spring,
- 4 fall, winter?
- 5 A. It was April.
- 6 Q. April? All right. So you basically started working in
- 7 the watch center around April of 2004. Once you obtained a
- 8 position here in the watch center, can you walk me through what
- 9 type of training you went through before you took the watch on
- 10 your own?
- 11 A. There's a qualification package. It takes approximately
- 12 three months to complete.
- Q. Okay. You say qualification package?
- 14 A. Um-hum.
- 15 Q. What do you mean?
- 16 A. Paper with quals on it.
- 17 O. Um-hum.
- 18 A. For items that we need to be proficient in.
- 19 Q. Okay. So basically a checklist for items that you need,
- 20 processes and procedures you need to understand before you get
- 21 someone senior to sign off on them and take the watch?
- 22 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. Did you complete that PQS?
- 24 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. When did you get your qualification letter, do you

- 1 recall?
- 2 A. I don't recall.
- 3 Q. Okay. Do you know a guesstimate?
- 4 A. Approximately a year ago.
- 5 Q. Okay. So you've been a qualified watch-stander here for
- 6 roughly a year?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. All right. And you have a copy of your qualification
- 9 letter on file?
- 10 A. Yes, I should. I'm not sure where it is right now,
- 11 though.
- 12 Q. Okay. I'll ask Lieutenant King to put --
- MR. BOWLING: That will be an item deliverable, if you
- 14 don't mind, sir.
- 15 BY MR. BOWLING:
- Q. Okay. All right. So, basically, you've been standing
- 17 watch for one year?
- 18 A. Right.
- 19 Q. What watch do you stand in the command center?
- 20 A. Situational unit.
- 21 O. Situational unit?
- 22 A. We used to be called the situational controller.
- Q. Okay. Just briefly, a lot of members here would like to
- 24 learn how the watch section functions, and, again, we'll be
- 25 talking to Commander Copley, and we'll ask him the question. But

- 1 from your standpoint, just tell us how the center functions, if
- 2 you don't mind.
- 3 A. My role in particular or --
- 4 O. Overall.
- 5 A. Overall?
- 6 Q. And then your role. Then tie what you're doing now into
- 7 the bigger picture.
- 8 A. Basically, if anybody has any problems out in the
- 9 waterways, they contact us.
- 10 Q. Okay. You said you were a situational controller?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. Have you ever stood watch at the desk of the
- 13 communications?
- 14 A. No, I have not.
- Q. Okay. And what about the operation area?
- 16 A. No, I have not.
- 17 Q. Okay. So you focus on the specialty of situational
- 18 controller?
- 19 A. Right.
- Q. All right. What exactly are your delineated tasking?
- 21 Can you tell me what is expected of you as a situational
- 22 controller?
- 23 A. All foreign-flag vessels, all domestic vessels, all
- 24 facilities, all waterways issues get routed through us, the
- 25 situational unit.

- 1 O. Um-hum.
- 2 A. We can issue what's called Captain of the Port orders.
- 3 Q. Right.
- 4 A. Letters of Deviation for, like, an inoperable
- 5 navigable --
- 6 Q. Radar?
- 7 A. Equipment, correct.
- Q. Yeah.
- 9 A. And we can detain the vessels. We have the power
- 10 through the Captain of the Port.
- 11 Q. All right. Now, your role in here, you're not -- are
- 12 you making these decisions or someone higher up the --
- 13 A. I'm making a decision and then running it through the
- 14 chain --
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. -- to see if they agree with that or suggest something
- 17 different.
- 18 Q. A recommendation, right?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. Okay. With regard to the day of the 7th --
- A. Um-hum.
- Q. You were on watch?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. What time did you assume that watch, do you recall?
- 25 A. 0530.

- 1 O. At 0530? All right. What is the normal watch rotation
- 2 in here?
- 3 A. It depends on what section you're in.
- 4 O. All right.
- 5 A. Some of them stand eight hours, some stand twelves. On
- 6 that day I was on the eight-hour watch, so it's 0530 to 1330.
- 7 Q. Okay. And that would be your workday, basically?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Okay. All right. So you assume the watch at 0530, and,
- 10 again, we're looking at all aspects here, so I'm going to ask you
- 11 some questions that may seem a little unusual, but I wanted to see
- 12 what happened in your life up to about 24 to 48 hours prior to
- 13 assuming the watch. Did you get plenty of sleep during that 48-
- 14 hour period prior to taking the watch on the 7th or were you --
- 15 A. As much as possible.
- 16 Q. Okay. Well, just give --
- 17 A. Approximately, like, six hours.
- 18 Q. Okay. That's enough for you?
- 19 A. I function on four.
- Q. Okay. Were you rested when you took the watch?
- 21 A. Yes, I was.
- 22 Q. Okay. Were you healthy or did you have a cold or any
- 23 ailments that may have --
- A. (indiscernible)
- Q. Okay. So you were fully functional on the watch?

- 1 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. So you assume the watch at 5:30. Do you recall
- 3 who you relieved?
- 4 A. No, I do not.
- Q. Okay.
- 6 A. I believe it was Petty Officer Lamb. I'm not sure.
- 7 Q. Okay. And when you say watch, what resources are you
- 8 using to maintain your watch. Tell me what you -- you've got,
- 9 obviously, a phone on your desk?
- 10 A. Um-hum.
- 11 Q. Computer on your desk, access to the Internet, and what
- 12 other tools are you using to perform your duties during the watch?
- 13 Do you monitor any video screens? Do you monitor any radar
- 14 screens?
- 15 A. No. We have them on the desk.
- 16 O. Um-hum.
- 17 A. But it's a relay from what VTS has.
- 18 Q. Okay. So the expectations of a situational controller,
- 19 basically, you're monitoring foreign-flag, domestic vessel
- 20 activities whether they're control actions by the Captain of the
- 21 Port or request for a Letter of Deviation because of nav equipment
- 22 down, something to that effect, is that correct?
- 23 A. Yes. Also, if they fail inspections, I can hold them
- 24 here.
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. And, also, we do what's called vetting --
- 2 Q. Right.
- 3 A. -- for all the vessels that come into the port, foreign
- 4 or domestic.
- 5 Q. Right.
- 6 A. To look at their past to see if they're clear to come
- 7 in.
- 8 Q. Right. Now, when you say vetting, are you actually
- 9 doing the matrixing for the vessels?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. Did you have any -- do you recall seeing any data
- 12 on the Cosco Busan on your desk at that time --
- 13 A. Nothing that raised a flag.
- Q. Okay. Did you ever hear any radio traffic or other type
- 15 of communications from the Cosco Busan up until --
- 16 A. No.
- Q. Okay. Well, I think that -- yesterday, I'll tell you,
- 18 we were up at VTS, and we were talking with Mr. Perez, who is the
- 19 watch supervisor up there. And then looking through some logs
- 20 here, that's the first link that we came to with you because he
- 21 had made a call to you after the allision --
- 22 A. Correct.
- 23 Q. -- with the bridge. So I want to go -- be thinking
- 24 about that. I want to go into that in just a minute and just talk
- 25 specifics about that incident.

- 1 A. Um-hum.
- Q. But before we do that, I want to ask you some questions
- 3 about -- again, we were talking about the tools you use to do your
- 4 job?
- 5 A. Um-hum.
- 6 Q. And I'm going to ask the commander -- have you seen
- 7 these, what I have --
- 8 A. Yeah, QRSs.
- 9 Q. Right.
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 O. What are those to you?
- 12 A. These are what we should use for every item that we
- 13 have. We have approximately 30 --
- 14 O. Um-hum.
- 15 A. -- QRSs, and that's how many items that could come up in
- 16 the course of the day.
- 17 Q. Right. And you say QRSs?
- 18 A. Um-hum.
- 19 Q. Those are quick response sheets?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. All right. And what's the intent of those quick
- 22 response sheets, do you know?
- 23 A. To make sure that everybody is notified.
- Q. Okay. So, basically, it's a tool that you use to assist
- 25 you in your performance of situational controller. Are you

- 1 required to complete those forms, or who is required to use those
- 2 check-sheets?
- A. We are.
- 4 0. The watch-standers?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Okay. Are those documents kept on your desk, the watch
- 7 desk?
- 8 A. They are in the computer. Anybody has access to them.
- 9 Q. Okay. So how do you, if you have to access one of these
- 10 documents, can you walk me through -- and let's stay away from the
- 11 allision part.
- 12 A. Um-hum.
- Q. Let's just say there's a response. If a call comes in,
- 14 regardless of where it came in from, and said, "Hey, we've got,
- 15 you know, 500 gallons of oil in the water, "how would you handle
- 16 that as a situational controller?
- 17 A. I would first want to know where it is.
- 18 Q. Um-hum.
- 19 A. If it's a protective area. And so I can know who to
- 20 deploy.
- 21 Q. Right.
- 22 A. Whoever is closest over there.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- A. And then, depending on how fast the computer is working
- 25 that day, pull up, through navigating the system, pull up QRS.

- 1 O. All right.
- 2 A. And then make my proper notifications and make sure that
- 3 National Response Center is notified as well.
- 4 O. Okay. Now, when you say pull the QRS up on the
- 5 computer, do you normally print it and then start checking off?
- 6 A. It's easier that way, yes.
- 7 O. Okay. Well, is that what you do?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. Going back to the date of the incident.
- 10 A. Um-hum.
- 11 O. Somewhere around --
- MR. BOWLING: And gentlemen, help me out with the
- 13 timeline, but -- where is my -- here we are. What we've learned
- 14 from Mr. Perez is that somewhere around --
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 8:33 --
- 16 BY MR. BOWLING:
- 17 O. 8:33, Mr. Perez contacted the command center here, and I
- 18 guess you picked the phone up, and he notified you that the motor
- 19 vessel, Cosco Busan, had allided with the Oakland Bay Bridge?
- A. Um-hum.
- 21 Q. At that point, can you walk me through the chain of
- 22 events that took place when that call was made?
- 23 A. I believe that he didn't say that it allided, that it
- 24 had touched the Delta Tower.
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. At first, we didn't know exactly how bad it was.
- 2 Q. Right.
- 3 A. So my CDO, the command duty officer, was standing right
- 4 next to me, so I told him.
- 5 Q. And the CDO is Bor? Is it Bor?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Okay.
- 8 A. And then we started getting other phone calls.
- 9 Q. Okay. When you say you started getting other phone
- 10 calls --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Do you recall who they were coming in from?
- 13 A. They weren't just for this. I had --
- 0. Okay, other stuff?
- 15 A. Yeah, I had two other cases.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. One of them was a port state control case. It was for
- 18 an anchor waiver, which we really don't deal with, but the agent
- 19 was calling us.
- 20 Q. So you had an agent calling -- you say an anchor waiver?
- 21 They wanted to anchor a vessel in a temporary anchorage, or
- 22 something?
- A. No, it's just the one anchor.
- 24 Q. Oh, okay.
- 25 A. So rather have two.

- Q. Yeah. So they were wondering if they needed to get a
- 2 Letter of Deviation --
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 O. Okay. So you had that going on?
- 5 A. Um-hum.
- 6 Q. Do you recall what vessel that was?
- 7 A. No, I don't.
- 8 Q. All right. That's fine. What was the other case you
- 9 had, you were working?
- 10 A. I don't recall.
- 11 Q. All right. So, basically, you were working -- at that
- 12 point, the call came in?
- 13 A. Um-hum.
- Q. You were working three cases?
- 15 A. Um-hum. And I put my sole attention onto that one, of
- 16 course.
- 17 Q. The allision?
- 18 A. Uh-huh.
- 19 O. Okay.
- 20 A. And then we started just making phone calls, making sure
- 21 that everybody was notified, calling D, the bridge,
- 22 D-11 bridge individuals. I notified IMD, Incident Management.
- Q. Okay. Who was the first person you called?
- 24 A. I believe it was Investigations.
- Q. Okay. The IO shop?

- 1 A. Um-hum.
- 2 Q. The investigation shop here with the sector.
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do we have a copy of her log in
- 4 this?
- 5 MR. BOWLING: We do not, I don't think.
- 6 MK2 BIDOWSKI: My log is in there. It's right there.
- 7 BY MR. BOWLING:
- 8 Q. MK2?
- 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 Q. That's the top one right there? Nope?
- 11 A. No, there.
- 12 Q. Closer to you?
- 13 A. Down.
- Q. Closer to you?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good eyes.
- MR. BOWLING: Oh, yeah.
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're eyes (indiscernible).
- BY MR. BOWLING:
- 21 Q. I was going to ask, do you have a copy of the quick
- 22 response sheets, the allision, in there --
- A. (indiscernible) ones?
- Q. Yeah, the completed versions.
- A. No, because at that time, I didn't have a chance to fill

- 1 everything out because we were making phone calls --
- 2 Q. Okay.
- 3 A. -- and receiving phone calls and making plans, and we
- 4 had one person on every single phone line in the command center.
- Q. Okay.
- 6 A. Making phone calls, receiving phone calls.
- 7 O. Okay.
- 8 A. Leaving messages.
- 9 Q. Right.
- 10 A. Trying to get everybody notified.
- 11 O. Yeah.
- 12 A. I called Port State, like, four times, because nobody
- 13 was picking up over there, because it was a foreign-flag vessel.
- Q. And when you say Port State, you call it the Port State
- 15 Control --
- 16 A. Port State Control.
- 17 Q. -- Office?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 O. With Preventions?
- 20 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. Or department, I should say --
- 22 A. Um-hum.
- Q. Not the office. Port State Control Department. Okay.
- 24 Well, before we get into your log there, and, I apologize. I had
- 25 it right in front of me and I read it last night. But walk me

- 1 through. You brief the CDO?
- 2 A. Um-hum.
- 3 Q. In your mind, does the CDO, and it's Lieutenant JG Bor?
- 4 A. Um-hum.
- 5 Q. What's his role in the command center to you?
- 6 A. He oversees everything that occurs in the command
- 7 center.
- 8 Q. All right. So is he making the final decision on
- 9 recommendations up the chain of command?
- 10 A. For the most part, yes, but we are responsible for our
- 11 own decisions.
- 12 O. Right.
- 13 A. At each station
- Q. Okay. What was your exchange with him? Tell me what
- 15 you briefed him when you got the call from --
- 16 A. At first, I was a little shocked, I admit, because we
- 17 always kind of joke about, yeah, today is going to be the day --
- 18 Q. All right.
- 19 A. Like, the cruise ship runs into the bay bridge. But we
- 20 were just a little bit in shock for a second.
- 21 O. Okay.
- 22 A. And then I told him that the Cosco Busan had touched the
- 23 Delta Tower.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. So that's how it was passed to us.

- 1 O. At that point, did he delegate or ask you to begin a
- 2 notification tree or --
- A. Um-hum.
- 4 O. Oh, he did? All right. So were you using any
- 5 references or guidance to make those notifications, or how did you
- 6 start making your calls, for example, to CalTrans and to the IO
- 7 shop? How were you doing that?
- 8 A. We did not use the list, unfortunately, but we did go by
- 9 who would logically need to be notified regarding this issue.
- 10 Q. Right.
- 11 A. And, as I recall, CalTrans, we did not notify them. VTS
- 12 notified them.
- 13 Q. Okay. Was there any level of verification that the
- 14 persons that needed to be notified were notified? Was anybody
- 15 tracking who was calling who or --
- 16 A. Everybody -- like, at least I know that I did. I can't
- 17 speak for everyone else.
- 18 Q. Right, I'm just asking what you know.
- 19 A. I did write down who I called and at what time.
- Q. All right. And where did you write that down?
- 21 A. On a pad of paper like this.
- Q. Okay. Do you still have it?
- A. No, because that's how I made the time --
- Q. Okay. So you just basically transferred your notes into
- 25 the timeline?

- 1 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. If you don't mind, continue on this chain of
- 3 events. Once the decision was made to start making notifications,
- 4 who did you specifically notify? You got CalTrans? Or you didn't
- 5 get CalTrans. VTS did.
- 6 A. Um-hum.
- 7 Q. Then who did you notify? You go the IO shop?
- 8 A. IO shop, Lieutenant Fu. He's over at Port State
- 9 Control. I called IMD, and that's Petty Officer Anderson.
- 10 Q. IMD is what acronym?
- 11 A. Incident Management.
- 12 Q. Oh, yeah, Incident Management, okay.
- 13 A. And spoke to the Petty Officer Anderson, and he was
- 14 going to go with station to go out there and look at it.
- Q. Okay. And who in the IO shop did you get a hold of?
- 16 A. Mr. Wheatley.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. No, no, not you. Ensign Hopper (ph.).
- 19 O. I like it better with Mr. Wheatley.
- 20 A. Ensign Hopper. Sorry.
- 21 Q. All right. Ensign --
- MR. WHEATLEY: That's okay.
- MR. BOWLING: All right. So Ensign -- actually, I think
- 24 it's JG Hopper now, correct?
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

- 1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It is.
- 2 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Yes.
- 3 BY MR. BOWLING:
- 4 Q. All right. And Port State Control?
- 5 A. Lieutenant Fu, F-U.
- 6 Q. All right. I thought that's what I heard, but I
- 7 wanted -- don't go there. I thought I heard that, but, okay,
- 8 Lieutenant Fu, and then IMD, Petty Officer Anderson?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. Okay. All right. Who else did you get a hold of?
- 11 A. I don't recall after that.
- 12 Q. Okay. And that's fine. If you don't know the answer,
- 13 that's what we're looking for.
- 14 A. I mean, I also have other people's phone calls in the
- 15 log --
- Q. Yeah. You were logging other people -- calls that were
- 17 being made by the other team members?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Okay. How were you getting that information? They were
- 20 telling you who they were talking to?
- A. Um-hum.
- 22 Q. Okay. All right. So, basically, you took this data and
- 23 summarized it, so to speak, and put it into the log --
- A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. Do you know if VTS actually got a hold of anyone

- 1 at CalTrans?
- 2 A. I do not know.
- Q. Okay. How did you know that VTS was calling CalTrans?
- 4 A. Because they told me that they did.
- 5 Q. You say they. Who are you referring to?
- 6 A. I guess Mr. Perez, who called me.
- 7 O. Okay. Do you know if Lieutenant Bor had -- did he
- 8 follow-up with anybody to see if CalTrans was notified?
- 9 A. I don't know.
- 10 Q. Okay. Do you have on your situational controller's
- 11 desk, do you have printouts of these quick response sheets?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 O. Okay.
- 14 A. We made that change, though. We're going to be looking
- 15 over on the QRSs and making needed changes to them.
- 16 Q. Right.
- 17 A. As well as printing out so they can be easily accessed.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 MS. THOMAS: Could you repeat that? I'm sorry.
- 20 MK2 BIDOWSKI: We are making the change to update the
- 21 QRSs and print them out so they are readily available on the desk.
- BY MR. BOWLING:
- Q. Okay. The City of San Francisco, do you know who made
- 24 the notification to the City of San Francisco?
- A. No, I do not.

- 1 O. Do you know who the contact point is with the city
- 2 itself?
- 3 A. Not off the top of head. I don't know.
- 4 O. Okay. That's fine. What about the state emergency
- 5 operations --
- 6 A. The OES?
- 7 Q. OES, yeah.
- 8 A. They usually notify us of spills.
- 9 Q. Okay. But what about did anybody make any calls
- 10 outbound to them?
- 11 A. No, we received a notification from them.
- 12 Q. Okay. When did you receive the notification from them?
- 13 A. I do not know. It's in --
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. It's scanned into the case folder --
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. -- along with a NRC report.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 MR. BOWLING: Do we have copies of the case folder?
- 20 This is the case report, but there's actually a case folder in the
- 21 sector command center and report --
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (indiscernible)
- MR. BOWLING: Okay. We'll need two more items, a copy
- 24 of the case folder.
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

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- 1 MR. BOWLING: Yeah, because we got to use you as our
- 2 point of contact, but whoever is taking notes --
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.
- 4 MR. BOWLING: Because you're the data guy.
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So you want the case folder
- 6 for --
- 7 MR. BOWLING: The -- yeah.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The ops center case folder?
- 9 MR. BOWLING: Yeah.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Larry, is there any benefit of
- 11 having two copies of that --
- MR. BOWLING: Well, I would like to get a copy just --
- 13 we need a copy for the record, but it'd be good to have it as we
- 14 go through the day to have a copy to use some notes on, I mean,
- 15 because there's stuff across both boundaries, but we can do that
- 16 later --
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can ask --
- 18 MR. BOWLING: Yeah, because there's notes
- 19 (indiscernible) notes, and stuff, in the case folder.
- BY MR. BOWLING:
- 21 Q. The case folder and I just lost my train of thought.
- 22 You put it together in the case folder and --
- 23 A. NRC and a OES report.
- Q. NRC report, because that'll have the -- I want to see
- 25 the inbound report on the oil spill. And, again, this is a

- 1 question more to educate myself and Crystal with regard to the
- 2 procedures here.
- A. Um-hum.
- 4 O. If the Coast Guard is notified of an oil spill through
- 5 NRC, National Response Center, how does -- are you aware of how a
- 6 report, particularly in this case, was generated from the state
- 7 back into the sector command center, because you just said that
- 8 you got notified from the state that there was an oil spill?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Can you explain how that --
- 11 A. I don't know that side of --
- 12 O. Okay. That's fine.
- 13 A. I know what happens when we receive the reports from
- 14 OES --
- 15 Q. Right, right.
- 16 A. -- and NRC.
- 17 O. That's fine.
- 18 A. But I don't know what happens on the NRC side.
- 19 Q. Okay. That's our job to find it out, so we'll -- we've
- 20 got a rep here, so we'll find out. I was just a little -- you
- 21 caught me off guard because I thought all the notifications were
- 22 outbound. I didn't realize that that was coming in. So we'll
- 23 need to find that out. Actually, that'll jump over to Crystal's
- 24 group unless you guys already have it.
- 25 CAPTAIN HOLLY: Rick Holly, Fish and Game. Basically,

- 1 if I could --
- 2 MR. BOWLING: Yeah, go ahead.
- 3 CAPTAIN HOLLY: When NRC gets a call, they will
- 4 automatically send it to a bunch of people.
- 5 MS. THOMAS: Yes.
- 6 CAPTAIN HOLLY: OES is one of those people.
- 7 MR. BOWLING: Right.
- 8 CAPTAIN HOLLY: And I gave Crystal the OES report.
- 9 MS. THOMAS: Yes, I got that.
- MR. BOWLING: So, basically, it's just --
- 11 CAPTAIN HOLLY: Automatic.
- 12 MR. BOWLING: In case the Coast Guard Sector Command
- 13 Center missed it?
- 14 CAPTAIN HOLLY: Yeah, it's basically --
- MR. BOWLING: Yeah, right.
- 16 CAPTAIN HOLLY: NRC, and then NRC goes on to a whole
- 17 bunch of people.
- 18 MR. BOWLING: Yeah, because NRC is sending reports
- 19 directly to the command center, too --
- 20 CAPTAIN HOLLY: Right.
- 21 MR. BOWLING: So you have some redundancy built into it.
- 22 CAPTAIN HOLLY:
- MR. BOWLING: That's fine. That's what I thought it
- 24 was. I'm just trying to get them on -- get it on record that we
- 25 didn't have, you know, a coms flow that wasn't working.

- 1 BY MR. BOWLING:
- Q. All right. So pick up where you left off. I'm sorry
- 3 for the interruption. We were talking about the, at that point,
- 4 you had got -- somewhere along the timeline you got notification
- 5 of the oil in the water?
- 6 A. Um-hum.
- 7 Q. The first time, I think, is that the first time you
- 8 heard the oil was in the water?
- 9 A. Yes. Actually, when Petty Officer Anderson with IMD
- 10 went out there, it was foggy, so he couldn't see --
- 11 O. Right.
- 12 A. -- exactly how much or if there was product in the
- 13 water.
- 14 O. Right.
- 15 A. So then we found out officially that there was product
- 16 in the water.
- Q. All right. Do you recall what time it was? Do you have
- 18 that in your logs? Take a look and see if you have it documented
- 19 in there.
- 20 A. The earliest one that's in here, we have the OSRO being
- 21 notified at 9:22.
- 22 Q. Okay. And what was the -- do you recall the way you
- 23 logged it at 9:22, how you -- well, did you make that call to the
- 24 OSRO?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 O. Do you know who did?
- 2 A. No, but the agent of the vessel called us here --
- Q. Okay.
- 4 A. -- who stated that.
- 5 Q. So the agent called Sector Command Center --
- 6 A. Right.
- 7 O. -- at 9:22 and stated that the OSRO had been notified?
- 8 A. Um-hum.
- 9 Q. All right.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Any chance you remember who the
- 11 agent was?
- 12 MK2 BIDOWSKI: No, I don't. It's (indiscernible)
- 13 arrival.
- MR. BOWLING: Just hang onto your questions so we don't
- 15 (indiscernible) if you would, and, actually, if you want to, you
- 16 can pass notes to Crystal. And, also, as we go around like
- 17 Captain Rick, basically, identify yourself. That way we track
- 18 because they won't know who's talking. And that's fine. We're
- 19 just trying to keep it easy on you.
- BY MR. BOWLING:
- 21 Q. Okay. Do you recall any communications flowing at that
- 22 point between the pilots and the command center, the vessel
- 23 pilots?
- A. No. I personally did not speak to the pilot.
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. So I don't know.
- Q. All right. That's what we're looking for. All right.
- 3 What about do you recall any coms communications flowing either
- 4 the telephone or VHF from any of the -- as the incident got into
- 5 the afternoon, from any of the response vessels onsite? Do you
- 6 have any -- were you working with any of those?
- 7 A. I personally did not.
- Q. Okay.
- 9 A. I left the command center at about 1400.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. So any of the response vessels --
- 12 Q. Right.
- 13 A. I'm not sure what time they showed up, but when I left,
- 14 it was still in the beginning stages.
- 15 Q. Okay. Still ramping up?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. All right. Real quick, I want to go back to these quick
- 18 response sheets.
- 19 A. Um-hum.
- Q. The District 11 Command Center is co-located, correct?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 O. No?
- 23 A. District 11 is over at Coast Guard Island/Alameda --
- Q. Coast Guard Island? Okay. How does this command center
- 25 link and coordinate with District 11 command center?

- 1 A. We make notifications to them usually after everything
- 2 has happened and after we've made notifications to the captains.
- 3 Q. All right.
- 4 A. It's, like, one of the last stages.
- 5 Q. Okay. And you're looking at what?
- 6 A. Just one of the QRSs.
- 7 O. Okay. (indiscernible).
- 8 A. Oh, NSTB [sic] No. 12. It says, "According to the
- 9 marine casualties" --
- 10 Q. Right.
- 11 A. -- "for the allision/collision QRS" --
- 12 Q. Right.
- 13 A. -- "it is after notifying all of prevention response,
- 14 the captains, the vessel's agent and owner, and then notify VTS,
- 15 and then D-11.
- 16 O. Okay. Are you aware of a similar guidance -- it may be
- 17 called something different -- that would be used here in the
- 18 command center at Sector San Francisco that would outline the
- 19 notification requirements at either District 11 or PACAREA or
- 20 Flag-Flock (ph.)?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. Okay. From your standpoint as a situational controller,
- 23 you use the locally-generated QRCs?
- 24 A. Correct.
- Q. Or QRSs? Okay.

- 1 A. Everybody notifies a different person.
- Q. Right.
- 3 A. The different chain-of-command.
- Q. With regard to the VTS notifications, do you know what
- 5 VTS, who they notified?
- 6 A. No, I do not.
- 7 Q. Okay. But you'd said they had picked up
- 8 responsibility --
- 9 A. They called CalTrans.
- 10 Q. Okay. Were they going to call anybody else for you?
- 11 A. Not that I know of.
- 12 O. Or for the unit?
- 13 A. Not that I know of.
- MR. BOWLING: All right. I think at this point,
- 15 Crystal, we'll turn it over to your group.
- MS. THOMAS: Okay.
- 17 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 18 Q. Hi, I just have a few questions.
- 19 A. Um-hum.
- Q. I was going through the case report, and pulled out a
- 21 few entries you made, and I just had a couple questions about
- 22 that.
- 23 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. First one was at 8:50.
- A. Um-hum.

- 1 O. It says that the Coast Guard was notified by NRC that
- 2 there was oil in the water?
- A. Um-hum.
- 4 Q. Did you make that entry?
- 5 A. I'm not sure. It's not in this one.
- 6 O. 8:50 --
- 7 A. That might be when we got the NRC report via fax from
- 8 them.
- 9 Q. Okay. I'm just trying to figure out if there was a
- 10 possibility that that entry was made -- I believe -- is it true
- 11 that you change the time stamp on things if you go back in
- 12 (indiscernible)?
- 13 A. On my log? This is just a word document.
- 14 O. In this --
- 15 A. I have never seen that.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's Missile case reports I
- 17 think.
- 18 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Oh, no, you cannot, not that I'm aware
- 19 of. I don't do Missile like this. My Missile is a separate side
- 20 of Missile. This is, like, what the SAR controllers use for their
- 21 timelines. It's not how I keep timelines.
- 22 BY MS. THOMAS:
- Q. Okay. So the people whose names are by those, who made
- 24 the entries, are those entries that you made or not?
- 25 A. I made the entry regarding MSC2 Anderson, that one.

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- 1 O. Is that the only -- I thought your name was by the other
- 2 one about the NRC.
- 3 A. Is it the name that goes below it -- then, yeah --
- 4 0. I think it's above it --
- 5 A. Or is it that one?
- 6 Q. I'm just trying to figure out how the call, how NRC
- 7 called you all at 8:50, and I don't (indiscernible) but that's
- 8 what entry said (indiscernible).
- 9 CDR SCHAEFER: This is Commander --
- 10 MK2 BIDOWSKI: We were notified via fax, notified. They
- 11 didn't call us on there.
- 12 MS. THOMAS: But the NRC report wasn't actually --
- 13 didn't actually come out until 9:51 is the problem. And so I'm
- 14 just wondering where that -- how that entry came.
- 15 CDR SCHAEFER: This is Commander Schaefer. I can
- 16 clarify. There are two NRCs. There's a National Response Center
- 17 and also National Response Corporation, who has assets in the bay
- 18 area.
- MS. THOMAS: Well, that's what I thought, but there's a
- 20 NRC, National Response Center, report number right next to the
- 21 NRC. That --
- 22 MK2 BIDOWSKI: We have those scanned into the computer
- 23 in the case folder, so I will be able to obtain that for you.
- MS. THOMAS: All right. I'm just trying to figure
- 25 out -- do you see right there? Could we take a look at there.

- 1 MR. BOWLING: Yeah.
- 2 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 3 Q. It has the NRC report number right next to the 8:50.
- 4 The actual NRC report is time-stamped 9:51. I'm just trying to
- 5 figure out if that entry (indiscernible) and just somebody entered
- 6 the wrong time in. That's what I thought initially as well, but,
- 7 yeah. See what I mean?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. So you're not sure about that?
- 10 A. No, I'm not, ma'am.
- 11 Q. Okay. Now I have at 10:07 and 10:12, O'Brien's group
- 12 notified?
- 13 A. Um-hum.
- Q. Notified you, I guess, a couple times?
- 15 A. Yes, they did.
- 16 Q. What did they tell you in those notifications?
- 17 A. At 10:12 I have it in my log that we received a call
- 18 from Danny Harrod (ph.) at O'Brien's, stating that an OSRO team is
- 19 getting assembled. And that's the only one from my entries.
- Q. That's the only thing he told you? Did he tell you who
- 21 specifically?
- 22 A. No.
- Q. No? Okay. And what about the 10:07? Do you have an
- 24 entry from 10:07? According to their log, they had called at
- 25 10:07 as well?

- 1 A. No, I don't have an entry in my personal log.
- 2 Q. Okay.
- 3 LT KING: I'm sorry, to clarify that, O'Brien's group at
- 4 10:07 in their logs?
- 5 MS. THOMAS: Correct.
- 6 LT KING: Okay. Thank you.
- 7 MR. BOWLING: That was Lieutenant Jeff King.
- 8 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 9 Q. Okay. Now, regarding the QRS, do you call it QRS or
- 10 ORC?
- 11 A. There are QRSs on our side, QRCs on the SAR controller
- 12 side. Basically, they're the same thing.
- Q. Okay. So is it correct that you did not pull up the QRC
- 14 (indiscernible) --
- 15 A. No, I did not.
- 16 Q. Okay. Is that just because -- why was that? Because --
- 17 A. Because we had phone calls coming in. We were trying to
- 18 make the initial notifications, and it was getting hectic and
- 19 chaotic in here, basically. We had one person on every phone
- 20 line.
- Q. So without the QRC, how did you know what initial
- 22 notifications to make?
- 23 A. From prior experiences with smaller oil spills. We
- 24 notify the same individuals. And since it was a commercial
- 25 vessel, that is why we called Port State Control and the

- 1 investigators.
- Q. Okay. So, in general, when you're using a QRC or QRS,
- 3 once you're notified of an incident, is it your job to make all
- 4 those notifications?
- 5 A. Yes, it is, ma'am.
- 6 Q. So other people in the area -- I believe there's two
- 7 other people, is that correct, in the field -- or, I'm sorry, in
- 8 your area. Is there three, four people?
- 9 A. My area?
- 10 O. In the (indiscernible) center.
- 11 A. The watch floor?
- 12 O. Yeah.
- 13 A. There's two other positions not including a command duty
- 14 officer.
- 15 Q. Okay. So when you get a notification, it would be up to
- 16 you to make all the notifications and they wouldn't step in and
- 17 say, "We'll take these"?
- 18 A. Not usually because they usually have their own cases
- 19 going on. I brief all the way up to but not including the
- 20 captains unless the CDO would request for me to contact the
- 21 captains.
- 22 O. So who would you all brief?
- A. Who would I brief?
- Q. Um-hum.
- 25 A. It would depend on what the situation was. If it was an

- 1 oil spill, I would first, if it came in via NRC report, first
- 2 contact the reporting party to get amplifying information as to
- 3 what it is, what it smells like, what it looks like,
- 4 approximately, how much. They're the best people to talk to since
- 5 they see it, and they're the ones that reported it. And then I
- 6 would -- usually if the CDO is in the room, I will notify the CDO
- 7 and let them know this is what I'm about to do. So I usually call
- 8 the duty personnel for IMD, and, depending where it is, sometimes
- 9 we'll call the station that's closest to there to see if they can
- 10 also go out and take a look at it. And depending on what the
- 11 situation is, if they need to open, like, maps, or the fund,
- 12 basically, so they need money to help clean it up, we also do that
- 13 if it's, like, after the work day or IMD is too busy.
- Q. So this particular case of yours, you were in charge of
- 15 basically making all the notifications, is that correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 O. You had mentioned that Petty Officer Anderson went out
- 18 and couldn't see how much was in the water because it was foggy?
- 19 A. Um-hum.
- Q. About what time was that, that he went out?
- 21 A. That was at 0850, 8:50.
- Q. And how did he report back to you?
- 23 A. Via phone.
- Q. And can you just repeat again what exactly he told you?
- 25 A. I don't have it verbatim.

- 1 O. Not verbatim.
- 2 A. That he couldn't tell and he was still en route. He
- 3 couldn't tell if there was any product.
- 4 O. So he was en route (indiscernible) that time?
- 5 A. Um-hum. Because he didn't know exactly where it was,
- 6 because (indiscernible) the National Weather Station that it was
- 7 Delta Span, Delta Tower, but what side, they didn't know it.
- 8 Q. Did he give you any other information as far as that he
- 9 was going to continue to look or --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. -- of his actions? What did he tell you he was going to
- 12 do?
- 13 A. Continue to investigate.
- Q. Did he check back in with you at all?
- 15 A. I don't have it in my log, so maybe not personally, but
- 16 maybe he talked to somebody else while I was on the phone with
- 17 somebody else.
- 18 Q. Did you receive any other information regarding -- from
- 19 anybody who had seen oil in the water, anybody else from the Coast
- 20 Guard who had gone out to inspect the area? Did you receive any
- 21 other reports back?
- A. Not that I recall, not at that time, and it's not in my
- 23 log.
- Q. So while you were on duty -- I'm trying to phrase what I
- 25 want to say -- so you were unaware of how big the --

- 1 A. Correct.
- Q. From the time you were -- from the time the incident
- 3 happened until the time you were off-duty, were you unaware --
- 4 A. From the time that I had left, the estimate was ten
- 5 barrels, which is 520 gallons, and I do not recall who I heard
- 6 that from.
- 7 Q. Ten barrels. And each barrel is 52 gallons. It's not
- 8 in your log?
- 9 A. No, it's not, ma'am.
- 10 Q. Would that number have been reported to somebody else
- 11 that was on watch?
- 12 A. It's a possibility.
- Q. So, basically, overall, while this was happening, what
- 14 was the overall feeling in the room? Can you explain that for me?
- 15 A. It was a lot of disbelief, but we knew that it was real,
- 16 slightly chaotic, because the phones were ringing off the hook.
- 17 Q. Um-hum. Right.
- 18 A. And trying to pass information from one person to
- 19 another. And still have, like, agents calling regarding vessels
- 20 not even associated with this one. I get questions about
- 21 licensing, like, during it, and just referring to the Regional
- 22 Exam Center and, like, what's the length of the sturgeon for this
- 23 year, and I get those phone calls in the middle of this, and I
- 24 can't say -- I can't, like, hang up on them.
- Q. Yeah. Was it calm or was it -- you said it was slightly

- 1 chaotic?
- 2 A. I wouldn't describe it as calm, no.
- 3 Q. Did it appear that everybody knew what their role was
- 4 and --
- 5 A. To the point of them doing something that is not in
- 6 their job description --
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That might call for a little
- 8 speculation --
- 9 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Yeah.
- 10 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 11 O. I'm sorry, I can't remember. What time did you say you
- 12 went off duty?
- 13 A. I left here approximately 1330.
- 0. After the incident, I don't know if you took any time to
- 15 go back and look through the QRS?
- 16 A. Um-hum.
- 17 O. Did you go back and look at that all?
- 18 A. I thought about everybody who I had notified and then I
- 19 looked at it and see if everybody was. I didn't notify everybody
- 20 in the exact order that it's listed and, also, depending on which
- 21 ORS would have been followed, if it was the allision and collision
- 22 one, that's a lot different than the oil spill one.
- Q. Okay. So you said you didn't notify everyone in the
- 24 exact order, but did you hit all the notification --
- 25 A. I believe I did.

- 1 Q. Did you hit all the points?
- 2 A. I believe I did.
- Q. Was the information in your log -- I'm sorry. I didn't
- 4 even know we had that until today.
- 5 A. Um-hum.
- Q. Would you be able to match up your log with the QRS and
- 7 be able to check all the boxes?
- 8 A. For most of the individuals, possibly. However, since
- 9 there was more than just myself making phone calls, I'm not sure.
- 10 Q. So there were multiple people making phone
- 11 notifications --
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. I thought only one person followed through with the QRS
- 14 and made all the calls?
- 15 A. In a typical situation. Not when a boat runs into the
- 16 bridge --
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. -- and there are so many phone calls that have to be
- 19 made and people making phone calls to us.
- 20 Q. So how many people were making notifications at the time
- 21 of the accident?
- 22 A. Like, five different people.
- Q. Five? I thought there were three and then --
- A. We had break-ins as well.
- Q. What is that?

- 1 A. A break-in is somebody who is learning --
- 2 Q. Oh, okay.
- 3 A. Like an apprentice --
- 4 0. Okay.
- 5 A. -- for that position.
- 6 Q. So there are about maybe as many as five people?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Now, in this incident, you said, okay, it depended on
- 9 which QRS?
- 10 A. Um-hum.
- 11 O. How do you decide which ORS to use? It was an oil and
- 12 an allision --
- 13 A. It was an allision first, and then it was an oil spill,
- 14 and at that time, we didn't know what caused it, so it could have
- 15 also been a marine casualty.
- 16 Q. Um-hum. How do you determine which QRS to use right off
- 17 the bat?
- 18 A. Usually, it's not one that is comprised of four
- 19 different items.
- Q. Yeah, sure.
- 21 A. So, basically, it's a lot easier and more cut and dry to
- 22 determine, like, which of the 30 QRSs I'm going to use for that
- 23 individual case.
- Q. So which did you choose in this one?
- 25 A. I looked at the oil spill and I looked at the allision.

- 1 O. And you feel comfortable with the fact that you made --
- 2 called the necessary notifications on each of those two QRSs?
- 3 A. For the most part, correct, ma'am.
- 4 O. I'm not sure if you know this, but the decisions to send
- 5 out a Coast Guard boat, a Coast Guard vessel, who makes that
- 6 decision?
- 7 A. We do, the command center.
- 8 Q. Who particular?
- 9 A. Usually, it's the OU, operational. They're the, like,
- 10 SAR controllers.
- 11 O. Do you recall who was the OU at the time?
- 12 A. I had two different people standing that position, and
- 13 it was Petty Officer Mugalowski (ph.) --
- Q. Could you spell --
- 15 A. No --
- 16 Q. (indiscernible). Okay. I'll just use my imagination.
- 17 And who was the other one?
- 18 A. Petty Officer Jackson.
- 19 Q. And are they in this office?
- 20 A. Yes, they are.
- 21 Q. Okay. So they make the decision to send out the boats?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- A. I mean, anybody can call the station, but it's usually
- 25 the SAR controller because it's -- they usually send out the

- 1 vessels.
- Q. So in this situation, your sole duty was basically make
- 3 all the notifications --
- 4 A. Um-hum.
- 5 Q. Follow the QRC, is that correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Okay. I have one more question for you, ma'am, and it's
- 8 about the 9:22 entry.
- 9 A. Um-hum.
- 10 Q. SCC contacted agent, who stated OSRO had been notified?
- 11 A. Um-hum.
- 12 Q. Who -- SCC contacted -- okay. You don't know who that
- 13 is?
- 14 A. I don't know if that was myself or somebody else.
- Q. Does that entry mean that you contacted somebody?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. They contacted you?
- 18 A. I thought that you were asking if me personally if I was
- 19 the one.
- 20 Q. Yeah.
- 21 A. No. The command center -- that's what it means is that
- 22 we called the agent.
- Q. But you're not -- you said you weren't aware of who made
- 24 that call?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 0. Okay.
- 2 A. I don't recall if it was myself or somebody else.
- 3 MS. THOMAS: Okay. I think that's all I have. Do you
- 4 have anything that I missed? Thank you.
- 5 MR. BOWLING: Okay. Let me, at this point, commander,
- 6 we'll start over to across the table there.
- 7 CDR SCHAEFER: Thanks.
- 8 MR. BOWLING: Identify yourself and --
- 9 CDR SCHAEFER: Yeah, Commander Scott Schaefer, Coast
- 10 Guard District 11.
- 11 MR. BOWLING: Commander, real quick. Are you okay? Do
- 12 you want a water or do you want to take a break?
- MK2 BIDOWSKI: I'm okay.
- MR. BOWLING: You're doing great? Okay.
- 15 BY CDR SCHAEFER:
- 16 Q. You talked about a lot of phone calls being made in and
- 17 out of here?
- 18 A. Um-hum.
- 19 Q. Are the phone lines in the command center recorded?
- 20 A. Yes, all but, I believe, two lines are recorded.
- 21 O. And which two aren't recorded?
- 22 A. They're not on the Vesta system. They're separate,
- 23 stand-alone phones.
- Q. There had been an issue in the past that the command
- 25 duty officer's phone line wasn't recorded. Is that still the

- 1 case?
- 2 A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. Okay. You talked about five people in here?
- 4 A. Um-hum.
- Q. And I got lost on some of the names. We've got the
- 6 command duty officer. That was Lieutenant JG --
- 7 A. Bor.
- 8 Q. Bor? You were situation?
- 9 A. Um-hum.
- 10 Q. And then did you have a break-in?
- 11 A. No, I did not.
- 12 Q. Who was the SAR controller or operational --
- 13 A. The operational, yeah.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. That was Mugsy (ph.).
- 16 Q. Is that the qualified watch-stander?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And also Jackson is qualified as well. However, he had
- 19 to leave, so Mugsy stepped in while he was over taking care of an
- 20 appointment.
- MR. BOWLING: Andrea, if you would, what's the correct
- 22 name for Mugsy?
- 23 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Mugalowski.
- MR. BOWLING: Close enough. I'm referring to Petty
- 25 Officer Musalowski (ph.).

- 1 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Musalwoski.
- MR. BOWLING: Back when we get to D.C., we want to know
- 3 who Mugsy is.
- 4 BY CDR SCHAEFER:
- 5 Q. And then your communications operator, that was?
- 6 A. Petty Officer LaRue (ph.).
- 7 O. And --
- 8 A. And we had a break-in over at the OU side. That was
- 9 Petty Officer Nagel (ph.).
- 10 MS. THOMAS: I'm sorry. Can you repeat that? Who was
- 11 he?
- 12 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Petty Officer Nagel. He was a break-in
- 13 over at the operational unit.
- MS. THOMAS: Oh, okay.
- 15 BY CDR SCHAEFER:
- 16 Q. Did you feel comfortable with the staffing in here
- 17 during the incident?
- 18 A. At the time, yes, because I think that if we had more
- 19 individuals called in, it would have been more people to step over
- 20 and more people to get information confused going and coming.
- Q. Okay. And looking at the notifications, and I haven't
- 22 had a chance to go through your log, Commander Copley, who is the
- 23 command center supervisor --
- 24 A. Correct.
- Q. Was he contacted that morning?

- 1 A. It's not in my log, my personal log, but --
- Q. Did you hear of anybody talking about, yes, they had
- 3 contacted him?
- 4 A. Not that I recall.
- 5 Q. How about Commander D'Quattro, who is the chief of
- 6 response?
- 7 A. Yes, he was notified and he was up here.
- 8 Q. So he came into the command center --
- 9 A. Um-hum.
- 10 Q. Do you have any idea what time that was?
- 11 A. No, I don't. He came up a little bit after it occurred.
- 12 MR. BOWLING: And you're referring to -- this is Larry
- 13 Bowling with NTSB -- referring to Commander D'Quattro,
- 15 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Yes.
- 16 MR. BOWLING: The response branch chief?
- 17 BY CDR SCHAEFER:
- 18 Q. When Commander D'Quattro come [sic] in, did he have a
- 19 state representative with him, or did a state person join him
- 20 later on?
- 21 A. Not that I remember.
- 22 Q. And do you recall notifying the District 11 command
- 23 center or somebody --
- A. Yes, we notified D-11.
- Q. Do you know who mad that call?

- A. We notified the bridge sergeant over at D-11 at 8:40.
- 2 did not personally make that phone call.
- 3 Q. That's in the aids to navigation shop, or bridge shop --
- 4 A. Um-hum.
- 5 Q. -- and waterways?
- 6 A. And then D-11 was notified later on.
- 7 O. Do you know what time?
- 8 A. No, I don't.
- 9 Q. Or who made that call?
- 10 A. No, I don't. There was a virtual brief at 0930, but I
- 11 don't have documentation of who was in there (indiscernible) in
- 12 the virtual brief.
- 13 Q. And if you could explain for us what a virtual brief
- 14 does?
- 15 A. Basically, we stood around the same table that is a
- 16 intercom phone, and people call into it, and we can have a big
- 17 meeting with everybody wherever they are.
- 18 Q. That was 9:30?
- 19 A. That was 0930, correct.
- 20 Q. Okay. I saw a mention somewhere of a Lieutenant JG
- 21 Snyder. I think it was in the log --
- 22 A. Yes. She's over at Incident Management.
- Q. And what time -- was that a notification to her?
- 24 A. She called here because her IMD personnel had prior
- 25 notification.

- 1 O. Right. Now, explain the relationship between -- you're
- 2 responsible for notifications, you said?
- A. Um-hum.
- 4 O. So at some point, is Petty Officer Anderson and
- 5 Lieutenant JG Snyder, does coordinating the response become their
- 6 responsibility or is that still here in the command center?
- 7 A. They relay what they find back to us, but they also have
- 8 their own chain and contact.
- 9 Q. The vessel transited from, after the allision, went to
- 10 Anchorage 7?
- 11 A. Um-hum.
- 12 Q. And then transited to Anchorage 9?
- 13 A. Um-hum.
- 0. Was there a Captain of the Port hold on the vessel at
- 15 any point or did that get approval or --
- 16 A. The Captain of the Port was -- the order was approved
- 17 after I left. I don't know how that transpired because my last
- 18 entry is at 11:17, and the Captain of the Port order was issued at
- 19 1600. So some time during, who relieved me, their watch.
- 20 Q. So the Captain of the Port order keeping in port or
- 21 saying it's okay to go to Anchorage 9?
- 22 A. I'm not sure. I don't have that information in front of
- 23 me. That is also in the case log.
- Q. And there are a couple calls from -- looking at some of
- 25 the vessel traffic service information --

- 1 A. Um-hum.
- Q. At 8:33, Mr. Perez contacted you, that's correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 O. Then they passed the pilot's name and cell number to
- 5 sector command center? Do you know if that was you?
- 6 A. No, I don't know.
- 7 O. 8:54, Vessel Traffic called down here to report the
- 8 vessel -- to relay from Unit Romeo that the vessel was discharging
- 9 fuel and the crew was taking action to stop the discharge. Do you
- 10 know who took that call?
- 11 A. No, I don't.
- Q. And at 10:40, there was a report of large amounts of
- 13 heavy oil off San Francisco, Berths 30, 32. Do you know if you
- 14 got a call about that or that was discussed down here?
- 15 A. I don't remember.
- 16 Q. Did you get any other reports of amount of oil other
- 17 than the ten barrels you heard from somebody?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 O. Okay.
- 20 A. I didn't find out until later on when I was at home and
- 21 I watched the news, said it was a lot bigger.
- 22 Q. Okay. Thank you.
- MR. BOWLING: State?
- 24 BY CAPTAIN HOLLY:
- Q. Rick Holly, Department of Fish and Game, Office of Spill

- 1 Prevention and Response. I just have a couple of questions for
- 2 just my understanding of where things are. Where is the -- when
- 3 you say boat went out or search and rescue, is that right --
- 4 A. Depends on where the incident is located.
- 5 Q. Okay. Where would this particular boat have been
- 6 from --
- 7 A. It would be from here, from the station.
- 8 Q. And the station is --
- 9 A. Right (indiscernible) --
- 10 Q. At Treasure Island?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. So the time between when the boat would leave and get on
- 13 scene would be relatively quickly?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. That's all I have. Thank you.
- 16 CAPTAIN HOLLY: Gary, I don't know if you want to follow
- 17 up?
- 18 CAPTAIN TOLEDO: I have no further questions.
- 19 CAPTAIN HOLLY: No questions?
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No questions.
- 21 MR. BOWLING: Okay. Back -- I have -- oh, sorry. I
- 22 forgot about my comrade to the left. Go ahead. Please identify
- 23 yourself.
- 24 BY MR. WHEATLEY:
- Q. Good morning, Ross Wheatley, Sector San Francisco

- 1 Investigations. I just have a couple of quick questions, and it
- 2 relates to the use of the QRSs. Petty Officer Bidowski, in your
- 3 experience as a situational unit controller, how unusual is it not
- 4 to complete the QRS while a case is ongoing?
- 5 A. It depends on how many notifications have to be made and
- 6 how busy we are at that time, whether or not it physically gets
- 7 printed out or you look at it on one screen and then you minimize
- 8 it, you make that phone call, and then you look at it again so you
- 9 can see who was notified -- who to notify.
- 10 Q. Okay. Let me ask it to you this way. You've been here
- 11 roughly about a year standing watches?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. As a qualifying one. During that period in time, can
- 14 you remember any other case in which you participated where there
- 15 was maybe a similar situation, a delay, in completing the QRS?
- 16 A. No, not that I can recall. Sometimes there is a delay
- 17 if it is, like, a routine one, where it's a security breach. We
- 18 know who to notify and then after we make the notifications, then
- 19 we fill it out, like if it's somebody taking a picture of the
- 20 refineries, it's an art project. So then we'll just make the
- 21 notifications, pull of the duty list, and call those individuals,
- 22 and then, still, just, like, writing down a timeline and who we
- 23 called, just not on a QRS at that time.
- Q. Okay. And would it be the normal practice, then, in
- 25 situations such as that to simply complete the QRS afterwards

- 1 based upon your notes?
- 2 A. Depends on what it is, correct.
- 3 Q. I don't have any more questions.
- 4 BY LT KING:
- 5 Q. This is Lieutenant King, by the way. I would like to
- 6 ask one question just to clarify the last question that Mr. Holly
- 7 asked to you. Based on your position here, wouldn't it be a
- 8 little bit of speculation on your part just how quickly or not
- 9 quickly a boat from the station would be able to respond?
- 10 A. Correct. I'm --
- 11 O. (indiscernible)
- 12 A. I don't deploy them, so I don't know how long it would
- 13 take --
- Q. Don't know the conditions of the day, don't know --
- 15 A. No.
- 16 CAPTAIN HOLLY: I was just looking for distances.
- 17 LT KING: Right.
- 18 MK2 BIDOWSKI: But they would --
- 19 LT KING: I'm just clarifying that. I wanted to make
- 20 that clear --
- 21 MK2 BIDOWSKI: They would respond faster, then, like,
- 22 Station Golden Gate --
- 23 CAPTAIN HOLLY: Sure. That's what I was looking for.
- 24 LT KING: Thank you.
- BY MR. BOWLING:

- 1 O. Larry Bowling with the NTSB. I want to follow up on a
- 2 couple of questions, and, again, you're doing great. Just tell us
- 3 the facts and what you know. A couple of times as the questions
- 4 went around the table, I think, actually, my colleague, Crystal
- 5 was talking to you about the response?
- 6 A. Um-hum.
- 7 Q. And you two may have been discussing the QRCs --
- 8 A. Um-hum.
- 9 Q. -- as I recall. And you made a term smaller oil spills?
- 10 A. Um-hum.
- 11 Q. At what time did you determine or did you, in your mind,
- 12 were you aware that it was an oil spill, regardless of the amount?
- 13 A. Well, we have the notification here that at 10:25 we got
- 14 the dimension of the hole in the side of the boat, and at 11:17,
- 15 Lieutenant JG Snyder called and told us that they'd be taking
- 16 samples at the location.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. So I don't know what time --
- 19 O. Okay.
- 20 A. -- I was personally made aware.
- Q. Okay. What were the two time sites on your log you gave
- 22 me?
- 23 A. 10:25.
- 24 Q. Um-hum.
- 25 A. And that was for the dimensions.

- 1 Q. Right.
- 2 A. And 11:17.
- 3 O. 11:17 was what?
- 4 A. Being notified that they were going to be taking samples
- 5 from the vessel.
- 6 Q. Okay. Oil samples, right?
- 7 A. Just samples.
- 8 Q. Yeah, okay, samples. But when this call first came in,
- 9 you made a decision to use a certain response sheet --
- 10 A. And I wasn't thinking oil at the time.
- 11 Q. Okay. So what response sheet did you use?
- 12 A. Allision.
- 0. Allision?
- 14 A. Um-hum.
- Q. And that was based on the incoming data, right?
- 16 A. Um-hum.
- Q. And do you recall if you contacted Captain Yuberti (ph.)
- 18 or the CEO?
- 19 A. I know I personally did not.
- Q. Do you know who did contact Captain Yuberti?
- A. No, I do not.
- 22 Q. You were talking about the number of people making phone
- 23 calls in the command sector, and in your words, basically, and I
- 24 don't want to put words in your mouth, and stop me if I'm
- 25 incorrect, but I wrote a note down, and, basically, you said that

- 1 the situational controller's desk, which is the watch you manage,
- 2 usually makes notifications in smaller incidents --
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 O. -- in your own words, or different words, but something
- 5 to that effect? But, at this point, because of the magnitude,
- 6 there was five persons involved in the -- or a larger number of
- 7 persons making these notifications?
- 8 A. Yes, and, also, answering the phone calls as they would
- 9 come up.
- 10 Q. All right. Was anyone at all in this group that was
- 11 assisting during the watch making these notifications and taking
- 12 calls and handling the situation, was any one person tracking who
- 13 was notified and the time of those notifications, do you recall?
- 14 A. Not any one person. We didn't have that. Everybody had
- 15 their own individual logs, and that's how we pieced together, like
- 16 the MISLE notifications and our logs --
- 17 Q. Right, which is right here?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. All right. Okay. So there was kind of a compilation of
- 20 everybody's notes --
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. -- going into the various data we've been provided.
- 23 A. Correct. Instead of having, like, five separate cases.
- Q. Okay. All right. Somewhere along the telling us about,
- 25 you know, the event that day, I think you said you got into -- you

- 1 started evaluating the notifications on the QRC, who should have
- 2 been notified on the ORCs --
- A. Um-hum.
- 4 O. And somewhere over there, you started looking at the oil
- 5 spill QRC?
- 6 A. That was the next day.
- 7 Q. Okay. The next day?
- 8 A. Or I'm not sure. I'm sorry.
- 9 Q. Okay. And that's fine, but at that point you were aware
- 10 there was -- I mean, you were then aware that it was an oil spill
- 11 incident, and do you recall whether you were thinking it was a
- 12 smaller one or a larger one, or where were you at when you started
- 13 looking at that?
- 14 A. That was when the notification was ten barrels.
- 15 Q. Okay. All right. So still at that point? If I ask
- 16 you, and this is a question related to your, I guess, your skill
- 17 level there standing the watch, if I were to take those 30 ORCs
- 18 and I were to put them on a table and I'd go, "Andrea, assume we
- 19 have a person jumping from the bridge"?
- 20 A. That's not on my --
- Q. It wouldn't be yours, right? What about, let's take the
- 22 marine safety stuff. Assume we have a grounding, we have one of
- 23 the ferries around the harbor, and we have a grounding, a
- 24 significant one. You know, a ferry, say it's a 99-person on the
- 25 ferry, what QRC would you use?

- 1 A. A grounding.
- Q. Okay. With that said, if I didn't give you that QRC,
- 3 would you be able to tell me who you're supposed to notify and be
- 4 certain that you got all your notifications without using that as
- 5 a tool?
- 6 A. For the most part, correct, yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. Is it the same thing for oil spills as well?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. All right. So if we were to say, hey, show me who you
- 10 got notify on there, you'd be comfortable to walk down through it
- 11 and --
- 12 A. For the most part.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. I don't know if I could do that at this time considering
- 15 the circumstances.
- 16 Q. Yeah, no, no. We're just talking. You're on your
- 17 watch, you know?
- 18 A. Um-hum.
- 19 Q. Now, would you be able to recall without using those
- 20 QRCs who you did contact and who you didn't regardless if we were
- 21 talking groundings or oil spills?
- 22 A. Who I did contact?
- Q. And who you -- yeah.
- 24 A. That would be on --
- Q. So you take a notepad?

- 1 A. Yeah, correct.
- Q. And just note that? Okay. Is that more useful to do
- 3 that than to use the QRCs?
- 4 A. It is more useful because instead of going back and
- 5 forth on the monitor, you can have it right in front of you.
- 6 Q. Okay. What's the expectation of the Commander D'Quattro
- 7 on that? Oh, actually, he's not running your desk, is he?
- 8 A. No, he's not.
- 9 Q. Commander Copley?
- 10 A. He's not on my desk.
- 11 O. All right. The CDO.
- 12 A. Um-hum.
- 13 Q. Has the overall responsibility to Captain Yuberti for
- 14 the watch, right?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. What's the CDO's expectations of you as a watch-stander
- 17 when you're working for them with regard to --
- 18 A. I don't know what their expectations are.
- 19 Q. Well, as far as standing prudent watch. Do you know
- 20 what they expect of you?
- MR. BOWLING: Go ahead. Speak up --
- 22 MR. WHEATLEY: I really think that calls for speculation
- 23 on her part to know what the expectation of the CDO is. I would
- 24 instead -- this is Ross Wheatley from the Coast Guard. Instead,
- 25 if we, you know, we propose to ask the question, are you aware of

- 1 any specific expectations of the CDO with respect to your job and,
- 2 also, if you could, if you can tell us, is it written down any
- 3 place that you know of?
- 4 MK2 BIDOWSKI: As pertaining to the question of is it
- 5 written down, I am not sure if they are, but it's standing a
- 6 proficient watch, and, basically, we are extending the Captain of
- 7 the Port hat, basically. We have that on that side.
- 8 MR. WHEATLEY: Just one more. Have you had any specific
- 9 discussions with any of the CDOs concerning their expectations of
- 10 your performance during a watch?
- 11 MK2 BIDOWSKI: No.
- MR. WHEATLEY: Okay.
- 13 BY MR. BOWLING:
- 14 O. That same line, is there a reference sheet or other
- 15 guidance that tells you what the purpose and how to complete these
- 16 QRCs, what they're there for?
- 17 A. Like, is there a QRC for a QRC?
- 18 Q. Is there an index and an item from, you know, the
- 19 standing watch procedures, let's say? Is there a list for any
- 20 watch-stander -- you know, you talked about your qualification
- 21 letter. When you went through this OJT, how did the QRCs factor
- 22 into your on-the-job training?
- 23 A. I was basically told to read every single one of them.
- Q. Why were you told to read every one of them?
- 25 A. Because I had to be familiar with them and what they

- 1 said.
- Q. All right. We'll be getting your qualification letter,
- 3 but is this something that on your sign-off log and your PQS,
- 4 where you checked everything off, is that where you saw that, that
- 5 you're required to read the QRCs?
- 6 A. I don't recall seeing it there.
- 7 Q. Okay.
- 8 A. However, the person who I was breaking in under
- 9 instructed me to read them all.
- 10 Q. Okay. And that's fine.
- MR. BOWLING: I don't have any more questions. Crystal?
- MS. THOMAS: I have a couple more.
- 13 BY MS. THOMAS:
- Q. Crystal with NTSB. Is it part of your -- do you have a
- 15 specific job description, like, a position description?
- 16 A. Situational unit.
- 17 Q. Is it part of your job -- is it written somewhere that
- 18 it's part of your job to fill out QRCs?
- 19 A. I'm unaware of that.
- 20 MS. THOMAS: I have a few more --
- 21 MR. BOWLING: I'm going to go around here. Anything,
- 22 gentlemen?
- 23 MS. THOMAS: Wait. I have a few more.
- MR. BOWLING: Oh, I'm sorry. I thought you were done.
- 25 BY MS. THOMAS:

- 1 Q. Okay. Is there any sort of trigger point for where you
- 2 would call the public affairs office?
- A. If we thought that the media would be calling, but,
- 4 however, the media calls here every single day, sometimes multiple
- 5 times a day, wondering if there's anything going on, even before
- 6 this. They call and they fish for what's going on, "What do you
- 7 have?" So we would call our public affairs if we had something of
- 8 interest that we could direct those media personnel to. The ones
- 9 that call us, if we had something going on that would require the
- 10 PAO to be informed, like, something like this, a grounding, or,
- 11 like, a grounding of a big vessel, we would notify the PAO.
- 12 Q. So is it correct to say that you would wait for media
- 13 calls to start coming in?
- 14 A. No, we would wait until we got all the information and
- 15 then feed that to the PAO, and then after the media calls, like
- 16 they do every day, we would say, "Actually, can you please call
- 17 our public affairs officer so they can tell you what's going on?"
- 18 We don't want to tell them directly from here, especially if,
- 19 like, I was not personally involved in it.
- Q. What would be all information? In this case
- 21 (indiscernible) --
- A. Who, what, where, when, why, how, all of those, all that
- 23 information that we had previously obtained through investigating
- 24 and finding out and talking to other people who were out there on
- 25 the scene, pass that to the PAO.

- 1 Q. Is there any specific quidance on, in an event call
- 2 public affairs office?
- 3 A. Not that I know of.
- 4 O. And, in this case, it wasn't the opinion of anybody on
- 5 the watch to call public affairs?
- 6 A. Public affairs was notified, ma'am.
- 7 Q. What time was public affairs --
- 8 A. I don't have that in my log.
- 9 Q. Who notified public affairs?
- 10 A. I did not, personally.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If I could just reiterate that
- 12 she can't -- she's unable to speculate on anybody else's opinion
- 13 about calling public affairs.
- MR. BOWLING: Noted.
- MS. THOMAS: Sure.
- BY MS. THOMAS:
- Q. Were you involved in the 9:45 call, the critical
- 18 incident call to the commandant?
- 19 A. No, I was not, ma'am.
- Q. Do you recall who was?
- 21 A. Ensign Tschuti, T-S --
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: U-D-D-Y?
- MK2 BIDOWSKI: No, that would be too easy.
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think it's T-S-C-H-U-T-I.
- 25 MR. BOWLING: We've got it somewhere in here.

- 1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah (indiscernible)
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: T-Y --
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There we go --
- 4 MS. THOMAS: You got that?
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's what it says.
- 6 MR. BOWLING: Yeah.
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Jonathan T-S --
- 8 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 9 Q. What was his role?
- 10 A. He was the prior day's CDO.
- 11 O. The prior day?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 O. So November 6th?
- 14 A. Correct. And around, like, around 0800 is when they do
- 15 their pass-down and transfer from the prior to the oncoming. So
- 16 he happened to be here, and, also, his office is right downstairs.
- 17 O. So he would have finished duty around 8:00 and just
- 18 stuck around --
- 19 A. Approximately, yeah.
- Q. So it's the CDOs job to make that call?
- 21 A. It usually, again, rests on my shoulders to initiate
- 22 CIC, but we didn't have the time or resources or forethought at
- 23 that time.
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just for the record, explain the
- 25 acronym CIC, please?

- 1 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Critical information call. It's the
- 2 1-800-GAD-SAFE (ph.) for the phone number.
- 3 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 4 O. So that is your --
- 5 A. If it warrants that, correct.
- 6 Q. But it was busy --
- 7 A. It was busy around here, and then when CIC was called
- 8 and they tried to initiate it, I was told that it didn't qualify.
- 9 Q. Is there any direction or protocol of when that CIC call
- 10 (indiscernible)?
- 11 A. CIC, there is a QRS for that. CIC is called when it's
- 12 high media interest potential or known terrorism activity.
- Q. Can we get a copy of that? Can we put that on our list?
- MR. BOWLING: Yeah, we've talked about that, and I've
- 15 already got a list. Once we break up -- and while we're
- 16 interrupted here, we will need to wrap this up. Number one, I'm
- 17 sure she's got stuff to do. We need to get lunch. They're going
- 18 to shut down in, like, 10 minutes --
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 15 minutes.
- MR. BOWLING: Unless you want to leave off the island,
- 21 but go ahead. I got a copy of those coming in already.
- MS. THOMAS: Okay.
- BY MS. THOMAS:
- Q. So can you explain what process would be used to decide
- 25 if that call needed to be made? You mentioned media interest?

- 1 A. High media interest or known or threatened terrorism
- 2 activity.
- 3 Q. So if calls were coming in from the media, then you
- 4 would --
- 5 A. We get calls, like I said, we get calls from the media
- 6 every day.
- 7 Q. So what would, like, really trigger, where you would say
- 8 (indiscernible)?
- 9 A. If there would be -- like this, yes, it would have been
- 10 CIC if we were allowed to be granted CIC. Yes, the phone call
- 11 should have been made earlier. Yes, I agree.
- MR. BOWLING: Well, just tell us what you know. I mean,
- 13 don't -- we're not asking -- just tell us what you know.
- 14 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 15 Q. Is there a protocol for the time in which a call should
- 16 be made is basically what I'm looking for. Is there a time frame,
- 17 5 minutes, 20 minutes, an hour, 3 hours, 5 hours?
- 18 A. When we know that there is a threat, correct.
- 19 Q. Yeah, but there's no time placed on it? It's when you
- 20 know there's a threat? Is that how it's stated --
- 21 A. When we know that there is a threat, correct.
- 22 O. Okay.
- MR. BOWLING: And we'll give you that copy of that. We
- 24 can look at it for all the incidents.
- 25 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Right.

- 1 MS. THOMAS: That's all I have. Thank you.
- 2 CDR SCHAEFER: I got a couple real quick.
- 3 MR. BOWLING: Sure, Commander. Please, sir. Brief as
- 4 you can.
- 5 CDR SCHAEFER: Yeah.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We want lunch --
- 7 BY CDR SCHAEFER:
- 8 Q. Commander Schaefer. So how often do you stand watch in
- 9 here?
- 10 A. I'm two days on, two days off, every other weekend I'm
- 11 in here. However, this week I am filling in today and yesterday
- 12 for somebody who was under-the-weather.
- 13 Q. So how many -- so it's two days on, two days off all the
- 14 time?
- 15 A. Um-hum.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. And every other weekend.
- 18 Q. So this is your primary job?
- 19 A. Correct.
- Q. And when did you put together your log? Was it as it
- 21 was going or after the fact?
- 22 A. I was doing my handwritten log while it was going on.
- 23 And then later on during that day, I typed up my log.
- Q. Could you read your 8:50 one for us?
- 25 A. 8:50?

- 1 O. Um-hum.
- 2 A. "Briefed IMD, MSC2 Anderson will be going out with
- 3 station to look at the spill."
- 4 O. Do we have any indication at that point it was a spill
- 5 or is that just in trying to --
- 6 A. That's from what I remember. It's from trying to piece
- 7 everything together at that time. I don't know if we were made
- 8 aware that there was a spill at that time. We may have the NRC
- 9 report that says it was notified, so then we did know. However, I
- 10 don't have that information in front of me at this time.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- MR. BOWLING: Commander, you want might want to repeat
- 13 that. The environmental team had a side bar going on. What was
- 14 your question?
- 15 CDR SCHAEFER: Yeah, environmental team, at 8:50 there's
- 16 a log entry that says Petty Officer Anderson was going out to look
- 17 at the spill, but we have nothing to support that there was as
- 18 spill
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What time?
- 20 CDR SCHAEFER: 0850.
- 21 MR. BOWLING: So he's trying to clarify the log entry.
- 22 MS. THOMAS: 0850?
- MR. BOWLING: On at least that log, 8, Rate C --
- MS. THOMAS: I don't have that entry. Let me check the
- 25 same entry.

- MR. BOWLING: Well, again, your question to Andrea?
- 2 CDR SCHAEFER:
- Q. My question was did you make that entry right at 8:50 or
- 4 do you have some handwritten note saying Petty Officer Anderson
- 5 was doing something?
- 6 A. Petty Officer Anderson was en route.
- 7 Q. Right.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: To assess whether you had a spill
- 9 or not?
- 10 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Um-hum.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.
- 12 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Since he's IMD, Incident Management.
- UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, basically, then, that
- 14 particular entry, "Anderson will going out with station to look at
- 15 the spill," so at that point, basically, it was more -- he was
- 16 just heading out to assess whether or not there was a spill?
- 17 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Correct.
- 18 MR. BOWLING: Or assess the incident?
- 19 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Assess the incident.
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. All right.
- 21 MK2 BIDOWSKI: And see if there was anything that IMD
- 22 needed --
- MS. THOMAS: I have that at 8:46. So, yes.
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right. Okay.
- 25 MK2 BIDOWSKI: I have 8:46 on here that I briefed

- 1 Lieutenant Fu.
- MR. BOWLING: Is that it, ladies, gentlemen? Oh, sorry.
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have one question.
- 4 MR. BOWLING: I don't look (indiscernible) to the left
- 5 here.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: During the duration in which
- 7 you've been standing watch here as the situation unit controller,
- 8 roughly about a year, can you estimate for us approximately how
- 9 many reported spills you have received or been notified about?
- 10 And the reason I ask is I'm trying to put in perspective this
- 11 versus all the other ones and the use of the QRCs.
- 12 MK2 BIDOWSKI: On any given week, I'll say
- 13 approximately, like, I log five, at least, from little marinas to
- 14 somebody -- we get a report of a truck flipping over and possibly
- 15 going into the water.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In those notifications, would you
- 17 refer to the QRC as to the appropriate people to contact based
- 18 upon what you know?
- 19 MK2 BIDOWSKI: Since it is repetitive, sometimes I don't
- 20 look at the QRC, because it's the same people every other day that
- 21 I'm calling and faxing and letting them know that ma and pa marina
- 22 in Berkeley spilled 5 gallons of diesel.
- 23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have no further questions.
- 24 Thank you.
- 25 BY CAPTAIN HOLLY:

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1
         Ο.
              One quick one. Rick Holly, Fish and Game.
 2
         Α.
               Um-hum.
 3
               With that number, do you have those numbers that you
         Q.
 4
    call pretty well memorized?
 5
               The phone numbers?
         Α.
 6
         Q.
               Yeah.
 7
         Α.
              No.
               Oh, okay. That's all. Thanks.
 8
         Q.
9
         Α.
               Okay.
               MR. BOWLING: Okay. All right. At this point, we'll go
10
    off the record. We'll close the interview.
11
12
               (Whereupon, the interview in the above-entitled matter
    was concluded.)
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## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: The Investigation of the Cosco

Busan/Bridge Allision San Francisco, California Interview of Andrea Bidowski

DOCKET NUMBER: DCA-08-MM-004

PLACE: San Francisco, California

DATE: November 30, 2007

was held according to the record, and that this is the original, complete, true and accurate transcript which has been compared to the recording accomplished at the hearing.

Danielle VanRiper

Transcriber