No part of a report of a marine casualty investigation shall be admissible as evidence in any civil or administrative proceeding, other than an administrative proceeding initiated by the United States. 46 U.S.C. §6308. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD * * * * * * * * * * * * * Investigation of: * ALASKA, ON DECEMBER 31, 2019 * Accident No.: DCA20FM009 * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * Interview of: JOHN LAWLER, Deckhand Scandies Rose Via Zoom Monday, August 30th, 2021 FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902 Balt. & Annap. 410-974-0947 **Post-Hearing Interviews** MBI Exhibit CG 136

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APPEARANCES:

CAPT GREG CALLAGHAN, Chair United States Coast Guard, Marine Board of Investigations

KEITH FAWCETT, Investigator United States Coast Guard, Investigative Team

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MICHAEL BARCOTT, Attorney Holms, Weddle, and Barcott

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1 you're representing? 2 MR. STACEY: Yes, my name is Joe Stacy with the firm Stacy 3 and Jacobson, and I represent John Lawler. 4 MR. CALLAGHAN: Thank you. 5 And now, we also have a party in interest for vessel 6 management. Mr. Barcott. 7 MR. BARCOTT: Good morning, Captain, members of the board, Mike Barcott for Scandies Rose. 8 9 CAPT CALLAGHAN: Thank you very much. 10 And we had provided information as -- for our last party in 11 interest who opted not to partake in this interview. At this 12 point, I just wanted to make everyone aware, NTSB is not 13 participating today, but will be producing a formal transcript 14 that will be available in a few weeks. At this time, I'm going to 15 turn it over to Mr. Fawcett, who is going to swear in Mr. Lawler. 16 Mr. Fawcett? 17 MR. FAWCETT: Mr. Lawler, if you would please stand, sir, and 18 raise your right hand? A false statement given to an agency of 19 the United States is punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment 20 under 18 U.S. Code 1,001. Knowing this, do you solemnly swear 21 that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the 22 whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? 23 MR. LAWLER: I do. 24 MR. FAWCETT: Please be seated. 25 CAPT CALLAGHAN: Thank you, Mr. Lawler. Mr. Lawler, just FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902 Balt. & Annap. 410-974-0947 **Post-Hearing Interviews** MBI Exhibit CG 136

1 another point of clarification, we are going to be showing you a 2 number of images during this interview. At any time if you are 3 having trouble seeing them on your screen, please let us know, or 4 if you need clarification on any questions or the images 5 themselves, please feel free to communicate them to us. 6 MR. LAWLER: Yes, sir. 7 INTERVIEW OF JOHN LAWLER 8 BY CAPT CALLAGHAN: 9 So, Mr. Lawler, certainly obviously this is a different Q. 10 setting than previous and just want you to be able to relax. Trv 11 and take a minute here and what I'd like to you focus on is just 12 the time that you were called regarding -- you know, to -- for 13 employment on the Scandies Rose. Take a few minutes and thinking about that call and then what took place as you arrived to the 14 15 Scandies Rose in late December 2019? 16 You want me to tell you? Say that again, sorry. Α. 17 Nope. I just want you to take a second to make sure -- kind Q. 18 of think about that and then if you can -- from the time you were 19 called, can you tell us who initiated the call to you? Start 20 there and then if you could walk us through whatever you can 21 recall from that initial phone call until the time you arrived on 22 board the Scandies Rose. 23 It was Gary Cobban, Jr. that called me; I believe it was Α. 24 Saturday, I think. He put me in line with Julia Cooper, the 25 person that takes Gary most of their business and from there I was FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902

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1 lined up with pre-hire paperwork.

1	lined up with pre-hire paperwork.
2	Q. Okay, and when did you can you tell us about when you
3	the day you reported? And actually, going back to your
4	conversation with Julia, in that discussion with her about the
5	employment, was were there was there talk about things that
6	were needed, additional paperwork or testing that you might have
7	to conduct leading up to that employment?
8	A. It was just a basic application and a pre-employment drug
9	test and that was it.
10	Q. Okay, and then when where did you get do you recall
11	where you had that pre-employment drug testing done?
12	A. I can't think of the name of the place it was, but it was in
13	town here somewhere. Basically, they do a lot of different people
14	in town here. I can't remember the name of it, though.
15	Q. Okay. So, would you say that's a is it like a local lab
16	there in town?
17	A. Yeah. They do like the DOT testing and all that.
18	Q. And then once you got through the employment paperwork, do
19	you remember do you recall what day it was that you flew in?
20	A. I don't know the exact day it was I flew in. I wrote that
21	down, though, on my previous testimony for you guys.
22	Q. Okay, and when you arrived to Kodiak, did you arrive with any
23	of the other crew members?
24	A. Yeah, I flew with Brock, and Art, and Dylan Gamby (ph.), and
25	I believe Seth was on that flight too, yeah.
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1 Okay. So, did you all -- once you guys arrived, did you all Q. 2 report to the vessel at the same time? 3 Α. Yes. 4 And when you reported aboard the -- when you arrived onto the Q. 5 Scandies Rose, was there anyone else on board before you all 6 arrived? 7 Α. No, negative. 8 So, did the remaining two that would be -- Captain Cobban Q. 9 himself and then David Cobban, correct? 10 Yeah, Captain Cobban was not in town yet and then David was Α. 11 in town, living there, and he actually picked us up from the 12 airport. 13 Okay, so you all arrived together with David and then the --Q. 14 so the one remaining person who hadn't arrived yet was Captain 15 Cobban? 16 Yeah, David was already there. He didn't fly with us; he was Α. 17 already in Kodiak. 18 Right, okay. So, do you remember when Captain Cobban arrived Q. 19 into Kodiak? 20 Α. No, I couldn't give you a definitive answer there without 21 shooting from the hip. 22 Do you happen to remember roughly if he arrived on board in Ο. 23 the same day or within a couple days as the rest of you? 24 It was within the same day. Α. 25 It was the same day? Ο. FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902 Balt. & Annap. 410-974-0947

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1 A. Yeah.

Q. So, going back to your first meeting with Captain Cobban, can you talk to us about your first interaction with him with as much detail as possible?

A. I mean, there wasn't really much of an interaction, it was just we were going to untie the boat and move it to the other dock where we were going to load the gear. Yeah, it just took a long time to do that because the lines were all frozen up on the dock from being laid up there. So, it probably took a better part of two hours to get the boat free and from there we didn't really have any interaction at all.

12 Q. Okay. So, being new to the boat, did Captain Cobban ever 13 talk to you about expectations of your job as a deckhand for the 14 season?

A. No, because I believe he just kind of knew that I already knew -- it was pretty basic, straight forward working on a crab boat. So, he -- there was nothing for him to really tell me, I just knew the job that had to be done and just get it done.
Q. Okay. So, who was it that assigned the work to you then while you were on board?

A. I couldn't tell you the exact person, I know it came from Gary. I never heard it from him personally, I might've heard him -- like overheard him talking about it. You know there's guys that are -- had already been on that boat, so they knew where the gear was and how much we were taking.

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Q. Do you remember who was telling you what needed to be done?
A. It was kind of a mixed bag. I mean, no one was really saying
what to do, it was just we're going to get the pods on the boat
and that was -- I mean, there's no real special was of, I guess,
addressing that.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. It's pretty much the same on -- if you've been on the boat or
8 any boat, it's relatively the same boat to boat, the process of
9 getting ready to go fishing.

Q. So, at point, did anyone show you around the engine room or tell you what to do down there when you were making rounds? A. No, never. I mean, I walked down there for my own peace of my on every boat I go on just because I want to be familiar with the area and, you know, where pumps are at and so forth.

15 Q. Thank you. Similarly, did -- was there any introduction to 16 specific gear in the wheelhouse by anybody?

A. No, just when we did a -- did our walk through for where the survival suits were kept and everything else for drills. As far as the navigation equipment, no.

Q. Okay. With regards to that equipment, is that equipment stuff that you were already familiar with, the radar, auto pilot, plodders, radios et cetera?

A. Yeah. Yes, sir. I mean, boats will vary with autopilots,
for instance, can be different boat to boat, but they generally
kind of work the same. It doesn't take much to figure out if

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	11
1	you've used any (indiscernible).
2	Q. Do you recall any of the equipment that was on the bridge of
3	the Scandies Rose that you were not familiar with?
4	A. No, negative.
5	Q. Okay, thank you. I'm going to ask Mr. [sic] Comerford to
6	bring up an image of the VHF radio. Mr. Lawler, can you see that
7	image on your screen? Note: Referenced image can be found on
8	A. Yes, sir. page 63 of this exhibit.)
9	Q. On the VHF radios, does anyone ever talk about the distress
10	buttons on those radios?
11	A. No one on the boat ever talked to them, but I'm familiar with
12	it. I have that same button on my VHF on my boat that I have at
13	home.
14	Q. Have you ever worked on a boat where that feature of the
15	radio was hooked up and ready to be used?
16	A. It depends on, like, the I mean, I could look back and
17	think oh, that boat had it. But I just from my experience, I
18	know most newer, modern ones within the last six years, eight
19	years have that function on it.
20	Q. And do you recall anyone ever attempting to use one of those?
21	A. No.
22	Q. At any time during the trip?
23	A. No, negative.
24	Q. Thank you. So, going back to your as you kind of got the
25	boat ready and you're interacting with the other crew, interaction
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	12
1	with Captain Cobban, any other conversations between you and him
2	between the time you arrived and the time you all departed?
3	A. There's just two I can think of offhand. One was at the port
4	door at the dock and he looked at me and said I feel like you're
5	unsure of me and I was like no, I'm just getting used to the
6	operation here and that was it. And the other conversation we had
7	was him asking if I'd be comfortable running the boat while he
8	took a downtime to haul gear.
9	Q. At any time during those conversations, are any of the talks
10	about you know, you talked about downtime, any talk about his
11	sleep or any talk to you about quality of sleep he may have been
12	getting at that time?
13	A. No, the only thing that I talked about maybe sleep wise it
14	was no, it wasn't even regarding sleep, he had to go to the
15	hospital before we left and that was kind of no one knew what
16	was going on there. We needed some stuff, I texted him and he
17	said he was at the hospital and that's all I got out of that. So,
18	I don't know he had any issues
19	Q. So, he didn't elaborate on why he was there?
20	A. No, negative.
21	Q. At any point did he indicate whether or not that may have
22	played into, you know, how he was sleeping or the kind of rest he
23	was getting at the time?
24	A. No.
25	Q. By interacting with him or working with him in those few
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	13
1	days, any indication that he was a smoker?
2	A. Oh, indeed, yeah.
3	Q. Okay. So, did you witness him smoking?
4	A. Yeah, on several occasions.
5	Q. Okay. How about reliance on caffeine, was he a heavy coffee
6	drinker?
7	A. Yeah, lots of coffee, lots of cigarettes, kind of the, I
8	guess, picture I got.
9	Q. And so, at any point of your observance during the
10	conversations you had with him, did he was there ever any
11	appearance that there was any other medical issues that he was
12	suffering from during those interactions?
13	A. No, it's convenient you should say that because he when I
14	saw him at the port door in that first conversation we had, I'm
15	not too sure to what extent, he had mentioned something about his
16	glasses, how he wears coke bottles for glasses, can't see a thing.
17	So, that's the only kind of medical thing that I heard of from
18	him. I don't know if that's considered medical, I guess it is.
19	Q. Okay. Any notice of any other ailments that may have been
20	bothering him at that time? Any excessive scratching or anything
21	that you observed during those conversations?
22	A. No, not to my knowledge. But like I said, I didn't really
23	have too many interactions. I mean, it was I could count on
24	one hand the amount of times I was actually in the same vicinity
25	speaking around or at or with him.
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CAPT CALLAGHAN: Okay. Now, thank you Mr. Lawler. I'm going

14

2 to go ahead -- at this point I'm going to turn it over to Mr. 3 Fawcett for some additional questions. 4 Mr. Fawcett? 5 BY MR. FAWCETT: 6 Good morning, sir, thanks again for being here. I want to go Q. 7 back to the VHF radios that were in the visor above the operator 8 station. So, we talked about the digital select calling distress 9 buttons, do you know if those radios had that feature hooked up on 10 them? It would -- they would display latitude and longitude on 11 the little window where you dial in the radio channel when you 12 were selecting channels. 13 Right. Α. 14 So, down in the lower, left corner on the Simrad, which is 0. 15 the righthand radio, it would say latitude and longitude. So did 16 anybody ever say whether those radios had that feature hooked up 17 and that they were ready for instant use by pushing the distress button? 18 19 No, that did not. But, like, on the left one there, I put it Α. 20 -- that picture, when you zoom in, it looks like it's up top 21 there. Well, maybe not. But no, I -- no one ever said if it was 22 hooked up properly or not and I never questioned it. 23 And then looking -- you know, we're looking to make Q. 24 recommendations to the fishing community at large, in your 25 experience, has the VSF function been hooked up and ready so that

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	15
1	you could use them, like, on your boat or other fishing vessels?
2	And you don't have to name the vessels, just in general?
3	A. Yeah, I had it hooked up on my boat.
4	Q. How about the other boats you worked on?
5	A. You know, it's just one of those things that I never think to
6	ask, I guess.
7	Q. So, I want to talk a little bit about you're still on the
8	boat, you're getting ready to get underway, I'm going to ask
9	Lieutenant Commander Comerford to put up an image of a AIS of the
10	vessel moving around the harbor. This is prior to your departure
11	for your voyage and if you look down there to the bottom of the
12	picture, you'll see a green square. That's where she was laid up
13	and then you began moving around the harbor. But take a minute to
14	look at that. Did Gary do all the boat moving? (Note: Referenced image can be found on
15	A. Yeah, that's page 64 of this exhibit.)
16	Q. But he no one handled the vessel correct from the in
17	the harbor handling and moving the vessel around?
18	A. In the harbor, no, that was his I mean, I call it the
19	glory moments, right, where he has to come move the boat. I mean,
20	that's pretty much as I was telling Mr. [sic] Callaghan, that's
21	probably the only time I had a chance to have an interaction with
22	him was as he came down to move the boat. But other than that, it
23	was just the crew on the boat, he wasn't really around for
24	anything else.
25	Q. Did were you ever in the wheelhouse when they cranked up
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1 the engine?

2 A. Negative.

3 Q. And who did the -- who cranked them up? Did the engineer, 4 Art, go down and crank them up or did the captain go down and 5 crank them up?

6 That would usually be Art, but I couldn't give you a straight Α. 7 answer on that because Gary could've fired them up. But I would 8 imagine -- I'm trying to think back that far right now. The 9 general practice is, especially if the skipper's not really there 10 usually, is the engineer cranked up, fired up, warming up so when 11 the captain gets down there it's time to throw lines, not sit 12 there and wait.

Q. Did you ever crank the engines up or shut them down? And what I'm looking for is -- when you were abandoning ship, there was some alarm sounds -- some kind of alarm sounding in the wheelhouse and we're trying to figure out if that could've been related to, like, the engine, low lube oil pressure --

18 A. Oh, I wouldn't --

19 Q. Did you ever --

A. I don't want to say that I know everything, but I would a hundred percent -- that's what I believe I said that in one of my statements. I believe that was a low oil pressure alarm because there was no alarms going off until the boat was completely heeled over and black smoke started pouring out of the center.

MR. FAWCETT: So, if you would, Lieutenant Commander

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17

	Comerford, can you go back to that image again?
2	BY MR. FAWCETT: Q. You're going to see the image in a minute you'll see a
3	Q. You're going to see the image in a minute you'll see a
4	few places where it looked like the vessel, Scandies Rose,
5	might've shifted off the dock. Do you see in the beginning, in

6 the top of that slide where it kind of moves out in the middle of

7 the waterway? Right there, those vertical -- do you remember the

8 boat moving off the dock to let other boats in or out, perhaps at 9 night or during the day? (Note: Referenced image can be found on page 64 of this exhibit.)

10 A. No. I don't -- no, I never -- no, it was one stop that we 11 were going to load gear, and then one stop at the fuel dock, and 12 then we took off from where we took fuel, I believe.

13 Q. And so, when you talk about having to break the ice off the 14 mooring lines, where were you when you had to break the ice off to 15 move?

- 16 A. We were --
- 17 Q. Where would you have been on this image?

18 A. Where the green dot was.

19 Q. Okay. So, shifting a little bit, if the boat were moved in 20 the harbor at night, would you have known it while you were on 21 board?

A. Yeah, we never got a chance to get off. It was go, work, we never went to town. I mean, I think I walked down one time or --I mean, we did go to town for any personal items before we left. But that was everyone as a whole, the boat wouldn't have moved

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1	with no one on there. So, everyone had the opportunity to go.
2	But no, to answer your question, I would've woke up if the boat
3	was moving.
4	Q. And you don't as you said, you don't recall any night boat
5	moves in the harbor of Kodiak?
6	A. No.
7	Q. So now I want to shift gears a little bit and all of these
8	images that we're looking at were most likely for the purposes of
9	the PI and counsel. We'll probably bundle them as a single
10	exhibit and post them for the record so that we can refer to those
11	for the interview. (Note: all images have been added in pages 63 through 72 of this exhibit.)
12	(Whereupon, the documents referred to as FAA Exhibit 1 was
13	marked and received into evidence.)
14	Let's talk about we're getting ready to go getting
15	ready to go on the voyage, a little closure. You talked in your
16	testimony about that you all knew the weather was going to be bad,
17	you all knew the forecast was going to have you know, it's
18	going to be tough weather wise on the voyage. So, if you would,
19	tell us how you knew that? I mean, there were a lot of ways you
20	could get information like the marine VHF radio broadcast. Where
21	did you get all of your weather from? We've talked the Windy app,
22	so if you could just recount, take a moment and go over those
23	everything you got the weather information from?
24	A. The primary one, like I said in my statement, when I was
25	shocked that we were actually leaving, was off the VHF. I could
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hear it -- we could hear it talking. I'm sure you've heard it, northwest winds blah, you know. That's what I heard Gary was listening to, it was within ear shot and I heard it and I was taken up -- I couldn't believe we have a full stack of gear on and it's calling for heavy, freezing spray and 20 footers or more. I can't remember right now the exact, but it was something to that regard.

Personally, if I would've brought my inReach that was in my hunting stuff back home but I couldn't find it in last minute packing, I usually will request a -- just from my own peace of mind, especially when we're working, kind of curious how I'm going to dress for the day, I'll request a weather report from the inReach. But I did not have that available to me because I did not bring in with.

15 Q. And what's inReach? I haven't heard of that before.

16 It's a Garmin device where you can send satellite texts and Α. 17 you can get satellite weather reports. Most -- there's a lot of 18 crew guys that carry them now that way you can send a text to your 19 loved ones back home when you're out on the water. And quite 20 frankly, if I would've had that with me, I probably would've 21 looked at that. There's an SOS button too that'll ping you. 22 So, you'd gotten this information over the VHF radio and we 0. 23 talked about some of the crew looked at the Windy app which would 24 show you the wind hours and the colors showing the intensity. Did 25 anybody use the internet capability of the boat to get a physical

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1	weather	broadcast?

2	A. No, I think it I never saw that, I would just say it was
3	the VHF. Gary may or may not have looked at the Windy app, I
4	don't know, and then his comment after that it's going to be
5	shitty when we leave here and then he said it's going to be shit
6	followed up by a lot more worse shit when we get out there or
7	something like that. I just remember that quotation, not exactly
8	quoted right now, but those were his words. Make sure
9	everything's down.
10	Q. Where were you? Were you in the wheelhouse?
11	A. Wheelhouse, yes, sir.
12	Q. Just before you left?
13	A. Yes.
14	Q. So, would this have been before you know, you're waiting
15	on the tide, at what point would you have overheard this? Like
16	six hours before you departed or, you know, earlier in the day?
17	A. This was probably this was a few hours before we departed.
18	The only reason we were waiting on the tide was to go out through
19	Whale's Pass to actually avoid a little bit of the weather and not
20	be in it right away and that's where the quote comes from, you
21	know. It's going to be a little shitty when we leave and a lot
22	shittier when we get out there, like, underway after we lose our
23	lead.
24	Q. A few hours before you got underway you had this
25	conversation. Was there any point while you were working on the
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MBI Exhibit CG 136 Page 20 of 72 boat, getting coffee in the coffee mess, you know, before you were stacking pots and working stuff, was there an earlier discussion with anybody about the weather? Like somebody had gotten an earlier weather report so they could see that the weather was getting worse.

A. No, negative. When we were working it was just kind of one of those things where we felt like we knew we were leaving at some point within the next so many hours because we didn't stop. I mean, it was just a constant go, get the boat stacked up so we can leave.

Q. So, at what point -- like, this conversation with the captain -- and I'll probably ask you about this later, but where did that fit in to the pre-departure drill? Did you get the weather bad news first about how bad it was going to be and then later on you had your departure drill where you put on your -- you know Mr. Gribble put on the survival suit and you talked about the safety equipment? Or was the weather report after that?

18 If I can recall right, I believe I heard him listening to the Α. 19 weather before and I heard him myself and that was enough for me, 20 like, just hearing it from the VHF. I was like wow, that's pretty 21 bad. And then, I believe, he ran us through the safety drills and 22 then came back in, and I believe he turned it on again and that's 23 when he said what he said to us about basically batten down the 24 hatches, tie everything, make sure everything was seaworthy, you 25 know, ready to go. We don't want stuff banging around on board.

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	22	
1	Q. You mentioned in the previous interviews how hard you worked	
2	and how hard the crew worked getting the boat ready. Did	
3	everybody work as hard as you, or were you the new guy on the boat	
4	that was doing, like, more scrambling over more securing the pots,	
5	or was everybody on the deck crew were they all working that	
6	hard?	
7	A. Hour wise, yeah. Art, I didn't really see much of because he	
8	was doing oil changes and whatever else he was doing. Brock was	
9	welding on pots, and then I was responsible for just getting the	
10	pots on board. And then, of course, you know, we had one guy quit	
11	24 hours before we left, I think, maybe a little more than that.	
12	So, that was one man down too, and so, yeah, the workload became a	
13	little more.	
14	Q. So, Art was pretty much devoted to taking care of the	
15	engines, is that correct?	
16	A. Yeah, he yeah, but he came out a couple times and tied a	
17	few pots down and because I was asking him for direction on how	
18	they like to you know, the best way to stack that particular	
19	vessel, you know, each vessel stacks a little differently with	
20	their gear. Excuse me. So, just like know, you know, how many	
21	tiers or how we're putting them in there. Just, you know, a quick	
22	interaction of how do you guys usually do this so I can do it the	
23	way that you guys do it?	
24	Q. So, during this time, you know, you're focused on you	
25	know, you mentioned, I think, 20 hours a day working, did you know	
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1 if the captain stayed aboard the *Scandies Rose*? Like, once he 2 came aboard, did he stay aboard or did he sleep ashore? 3 A. No, he's got a house in town. No, he slept in his house in 4 town.

Q. So, when the guys told you how they configured the pot stacks, did they say they always configured them so there were no alleys? So, you know, we've seen photographs of different crab boats that have had one or two alleys going (indiscernible) on the main deck to get up there. Was it -- you don't do it that way on this boat? You stack it with no alley?

11 I actually -- yeah, and I actually mentioned that too, I was Α. 12 like you guys don't put an alley on here? You know, because if 13 it's really shitty out, it's not like you want every guy to climb 14 over an icy stack just to get back from the wheelhouse. And on 15 top of that, I mean, looking back now, you guys are looking for 16 suggestions, but especially on a (indiscernible) boat, stuff can 17 go really sideways when you're working too. And if you're at 18 forward and you've got a whole stack of gear in front of you to 19 get around, it would probably behoove for a boat like that to have 20 suits up forward in the forepeak as well, not just in the 21 wheelhouse, you know, another area.

Q. And did anybody say, like, that's the captain's way that he wants it? Or, I mean, did Brock say this is the way I want it because Brock was the deck boss when you were loading the pots? A. No, it was just one of those, like, this is how we always do

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1 it type of deal.

2	Q. Just to clarify, as you're getting ready to depart and I'm
3	getting to the end of these questions here on this particular
4	report, but did he talk about the late start and what it meant to
5	the boat and meant to fishing, like, the fact that you were later
6	starting out on the voyage than you had intended?
7	A. No, I just know the dates and then my past experience and
8	then I Dean, he was the only one that was able to get off the
9	vessel with me. He had mentioned that it sounded like there were
10	some heated conversations in the wheelhouse, but getting underway,
11	I didn't get particulars on it.
12	But for me, personally, I just know that the cod fishery,

13 when it starts, and the track record of how it had been trending 14 for the last few years. And like, the year prior I was actually on a 58-footer and over 60's get to fish it's a whole different 15 16 quota for over 60. A few of the crew that we somehow talked to 17 were talking about how they were only able to get their gear out 18 there, dump their gear and make a trip on it and they had this 19 stack back out, they were done by the 6th. Like, they closed it 20 for over the 60's by the 6th, I believe I remember that date 21 correctly the year prior.

So, yeah, I mean, if you want to get a trip in to have catch history -- catch record to show that you're actually actively participating in the fishery in case they ever do rationalize it, you need to get out there and make that trip before it closes and

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25

1 there's no ifs, ands, or buts.

2	Q. So, after you get this after you we'll talk about the
3	drills in a minute, but after you get this second weather forecast
4	that confirms the worsening weather, did the captain try to
5	reassure you guys? I know you're all experienced fishermen,
6	right, there's no green horns on the boat. Did he try to reassure
7	you that you could handle the weather? Did he talk about and
8	I'll give you an example, like, did he say we're going to run out
9	there slower did he mention before you got underway, before the
10	watches were set, and before the drill was conducted and stuff,
11	did he reassure you by how he's going to handle the weather?
12	A. No, nothing like that. It was just he raised our lines
13	and off we go. It was I mean, we usually don't have that
14	conversation with the captain, you know, he's the head guy in
15	charge.
16	Q. I'm going to and this is my last question. So, I'm going
17	to ask Lieutenant Commander Comerford to move over to to put up
18	an image. This is an image that you'll see which is Shelikof
19	Strait into the west of the straits and there are a number of
20	places that could be potential points where a vessel could shelter
21	in the weather that you were experiencing. So, you'll see a blue
22	dotted line that runs from the northwest to the southeast and
23	that's kind of the exit to Shelikof Strait. And to the west of
24	that line, it's a known area of heavy ice forming, and then the
25	red arrows point to a bunch of potential anchorages, and the blue

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1	arrow in lower, left corner indicates the direction of the (Note: Referenced image can be	
2	prevailing with that you experienced found on page 65 of this exhibit	it)
3	Before you got underway, did anybody talk about places where	
4	the vessel could hole up if icing got bad or the weather was	
5	really bad so that they can shelter the boat? I could name those	
6	areas there, but what I'm looking for is generally was there a	
7	discussion about where the boat could hide in the weather if they	
8	needed to before you left Kodiak?	
9	A. No, sir.	
10	MR. FAWCETT: All right, thank you. That's all I have for	
11	now. The Captain's got a few more questions for you on a	
12	different topic and then we'll move on.	
13	CAPT CALLAGHAN: Thank you, Mr. Fawcett.	
14	BY CAPT CALLAGHAN:	
15	Q. So, one quick question to back on that last one regarding	
16	shelter areas. So, regardless of whether or not it had been	
17	discussed prior to getting underway, are any of those areas that	
18	you may have experienced using in the past in your experience?	
19	A. No, because usually most boats I've been on are either	
20	leaving Seattle or where the boat's already in Dutch Harbor. So,	
21	I haven't really travelled from Kodiak. I can think of one time a	
22	long time ago, but that's been years ago, on a 58-footer, but we	
23	didn't have any reason to hide.	
24	Q. Thank you, I just wanted to clarify. So, I'm going to kind	
25	of shift the discussion towards kind of the pre-departure drills	
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1 and training that you all did on board. And at one point during 2 testimony, we had heard someone tell us that the captain and his 3 son may have had personal locater beacons at some point or 4 potentially on board. Did that ever come up in discussions that 5 you're aware of?

6 A. No.

Q. Okay. So, in the drills, in the discussions that you guys --8 for the training that you had, particularly with the EPIRB, was 9 there any discussion about taking the EPIRB out of the bracket and 10 someone bringing the EPIRB with them?

11 A. Nothing, like, set.

12 Any discussion that it would be brought into the wheelhouse Q. 13 in preparation for potential activation for abandoning the vessel? 14 No, and in our situation, that wasn't even -- when the boat Α. 15 laid over it was like the snap of a finger. There wasn't like 16 we're taking water on or we've got a little bit of a list that's 17 slowly getting worse. It went from pretty normal to just bad right away, so there's a heavy degree of -- it would be like just 18 19 rolling out there and coming back in, we're like all right, we've 20 got some time. There was not really any time for that. I mean, 21 Gary had once mentioned -- it was a joke, obviously, but he said 22 if you're ever looking for the EPIRB just look for me because I'll 23 be the one hanging onto it.

Q. Okay. So, from your recollection of being up on the bridge,do you recall seeing the EPIRB at all?

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1 A. Yeah, we brought it in the wheelhouse before we left and -2 Q. Okay. So, to conduct the training it was brought into the
3 wheelhouse?

4 Yeah, and Gary flipped the switch on it and in my head I'm Α. thing there's an actual test function on there that lets you guys 5 6 know. But I've seen it before where guys do that switch and then 7 you get the call like your boat's sitting at the dock, are you 8 guys okay? But I just remember that no light ever blinked or came 9 on or anything, but he did say oh, shouldn't have turn that one 10 and then turned it right back off. But I never saw any confirming 11 lights that had activated for a second, so I don't know if it was 12 just too quick or maybe it wasn't functioning properly. I don't 13 know, that's all speculation, I quess.

14 So, based on your experience, then, from work on other boats Ο. 15 and similar type drills, can you tell us did that experience in 16 the test of the EPIRB differ from what you had seen previous? 17 A. No -- I mean, yes, I guess. We -- most other boats I've been 18 on we walk outside -- well, it's usually real nice, too. Like, 19 that night we were doing it, the wind was howling, it was cold 20 out, and we wanted to bring it inside rather than us all sit 21 outside in the dark, too. But generally speaking, if you're the 22 new guy I'd be like well, I'm just going to walk around just to 23 point where things are, you know, walk up to where the EPIRB is or 24 where the life rafts are. But never, like, ran inside and dink 25 around with it.

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1 So, when you prepped for that training, did you happen to Ο. 2 witness Captain Cobban retrieving the EPIRB or was it already located in the wheelhouse when the training was initiated? 3 4 No, he retrieved it. We all went outside. I know of Α. 5 anything particularly at this point in time that actually grabbed 6 it off, but it was taken out of its holster and brought down. 7 So, the next question I have for you, during the Ο. Okav. 8 follow up interviews following the incident and from previous 9 testimony, both you and Mr. Gribble had previously testified the 10 location of the EPIRB as being on the starboard side of the 11 vessel. Can you tell us, you know, how you both might've come to 12 the conclusion that it was on the starboard side? 13 Just everything happened so fast, I think we were just Α. 14 thinking back on it, you know, if I saw a picture I would know and 15 would just point right at it. I think that was the first thing 16 that -- I don't know how I came up with that in my testimony. Ι 17 did physically see the EPIRB in the wheelhouse, so it did exist if 18 that's what we're questioning, if it was in existence or not. Ιt 19 definitely --

Q. Sure. No, just -- as we looked at the testimony from the both of you and just trying to look at where it may have played into just decision making and activities after the vessel heeled over. So, you know, if both of you -- just trying to get into whether or not -- if the two of you had the EPIRB located on the starboard side, if during that evacuation, the two of you getting

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1	out of the port wheelhouse door, if it played into whether or not
2	you tried to locate it before abandoning ship?
3	Q. No, the only talk outside of doing anything well, I mean,
4	there was complete mayhem, but a lot of yelling inside for people
5	to get outside and then Dean did say oh, we should try maybe we
6	should try to get a raft, you know, rope loose. Then I told him
7	I remember I told him I said we're not getting up there,
8	that's not going to be I didn't say all these words in that
9	time, but my thought process was it's going to be more of a
10	hindrance or not hindrance, but just unsafe action to get hung
11	up in all the rigging up there and everything else.
12	And I don't know, I explained it best by talking about roofs.
13	If you've ever walked on a 3/12 pitch and you try to walk on a
14	12/12 pitch. But you can't walk on a 12/12 pitch because it's too
15	steep, especially if you have that suit on, it's not the best
16	traction or anything. The likelihood that you're going to get up
17	there is next to none and you're going to end up maybe in the
18	water on the other side of the boat. But the boat's actually
19	tipping too, so you might just get taken. I was just trying to
20	think of the best course of action for us which was just to
21	continue to follow the higher ground on the boat as it rolled,
22	just keep following it around.
23	Q. Sure. So, I'm going to ask Mr. Comerford to pull up another
24	image here. And so, this is kind of the report wheelhouse door
25	and then so as you came out that door, had you thought about
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1 where the EPIRB was and had you thought about trying to locate the (Note: Referenced image can be EPIRB as the vessel was heeling over? found on page 66 of this 2 When that door flew open and the wind hit my face all I 3 No. Α. 4 was thinking was, excuse my language, I'm going to fucking die, 5 this is it. I don't know what I'm doing, but I'm doing something. 6 There's no thought, it's just get your suit on and get outside. 7 CAPT CALLAGHAN: Okay, thank you, Mr. Lawler. That's my last

8 question for -- with that topic, so I'm going to turn it back to
9 Mr. Fawcett to talk about another topic.

10 Mr. Fawcett?

11

BY MR. FAWCETT:

12 Yeah. We were asking about the EPIRD just -- I want to Q. 13 reiterate that the captain did say during the training that the 14 EPIRB would be with him; is that was a correct statement? 15 Yeah, but it was a joke. It wasn't like an actual -- it was Α. 16 a joke he was making. He was, you know, a witty guy, I guess, if 17 you knew him. He was basically saying that he was going to be the 18 one that has that because he's getting saved first is what -- I 19 can't remember how he stated it perfectly. But he did say that he 20 would be the one that has it so that he knows that rescue will 21 come to him. So, if you want to get rescued, you better find him 22 because where he's at, the EPIRB will be at.

Q. And the -- when the EPIRB came up -- like the subject in the training of the EPIRB coming up, did he walk out and get it and bring it into the wheelhouse? Or was it already, like, sitting on

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1 the chart table?

1	the chart table?
2	A. No, we all walked outside of the hole and got it. We went up
3	to sorry look at the rafts first and then we got to the
4	EPIRB at some point in our walkaround and then brought it we
5	all came back inside with the EPIRB.
6	Q. And, you know, something yeah, something just came to
7	mind, in the stack there's a hatch in the stack on the
8	portside. If you're standing on the deck behind the wheelhouse,
9	there's, like, a scuttle to go inside the smokestack and it wasn't
10	in all of these images it wasn't on there and then in the
11	survey it wasn't on there. Do you remember seeing that scuttle
12	open to the stack when you were out there at any time?
13	A. That night, no, it was dark and so I didn't really notice
14	that and then I was actually surprised to see that in the
15	pictures, too. I wasn't even aware of its existence, honestly.
16	Q. So, we've asked you a lot of questions and also Mr. Gribble
17	about the navigation watches and so forth and there's a lot of
18	gaps that we have. And so, what I'd like you to do is just sit
19	there for a moment and now the captain is, I guess, going I'm
20	supposing that he's going to tell you about what you do when
21	you're underway standing in the navigation watch. So, if you can
22	tell us what he told you guys, when he told you, what his
23	expectations were, and I'll give you just some hints like was the
24	watch schedule put on a clip board about a standing order? So,
25	you've got the floor, just tell us about how that meeting went and

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1 what he told you all to do?

2 There wasn't really a meeting of any sort. I mean, I think Α. 3 like you had said before, there was no green horns on the boat, 4 you know, it's experienced guys. Everyone kind of knows their 5 role when they're at the wheel we knew where we're going. At the 6 time there was no gear out there, so we didn't have to worry about 7 dodging gear or getting line in the wheel or anything. But it was 8 on a piece of paper -- I think it was a smaller note pad or it 9 could've been a sticky note, I can't remember. It was something 10 smaller, not the full-sized notebook.

11 But it was just two-hour watches; I believe that was the time -- two hours, yeah. And, you know, he might've wrote on there, 12 13 look at the engine room, even if he didn't, I still would've, so I 14 can't tell you if it was written on there or not because that's 15 something I'll always do. Just go down there and make a walk --16 you know, make a pass down there and make sure nothing's off, no water in the bilges or so forth. Even though I'm up here in here 17 18 on the boat, I look at the day tank, make sure that the fuel 19 level's good so we're not running out underway. Yeah. Can I 20 elaborate on anything else for you there? 21 Yeah. So, in previous testimony, you and Mr. Gribble had Q.

22 said that the captain said six hours and the rest of the crew
23 stood one-hour watches. And I know that you know, we try to get
24 all the evidence that we can and Mr. Gamby was saying that when he
25 was on the boat, that everybody stood and hour-and-a-half watches

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1	and Art just worked in the engine room. So, based on both of your
2	previous testimony, are you pretty sure that the captain stood
3	six-hour watches and each of you remaining crew persons stood one-
4	hour watches? For example, you had the watch directly before Mr.
5	Gribble had it, is that correct?
6	A. Yes. I'm trying to think, it was, like, between an hour and
7	two hours and that's thinking back now. If I said an hour at the
8	time, that's definitely what it was because now it's hard to just
9	think back on how long was my watch that day. But I know for a
10	fact that Gary had the longer watch because there was that gap in
11	there I just remember seeing I know he sat out there longer.
12	That's his spot, right, he just sits up there and he would be on
13	the phone talking on the phone to people the tag phone. And
14	yeah, he took a longer watch than all of us did. It was probably
15	six to eight hours. Who knows, maybe I didn't keep track of
16	his time, maybe he decided he wanted to stay up there longer
17	sometimes, but it definitely was well over what everyone else was
18	watching.
19	Q. So, you followed Art as you previously testified? Do you
20	remember following Art on watch?
21	A. Art? No, I thought Art was on the list. I was pretty sure
22	that David was the one that wakes me up if I remember correctly.
23	I thought it was David.
24	Q. All right. And then, is there any can you as best you
25	can recall, can you tell us what were in the standing orders that
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1	the captain had on the notepad?
2	A. It was, like, the hour, hour-and-a-half, somewhere around
3	there like you were saying. I believe it said something about
4	walking through the engine room and that was it. Yeah, there was
5	nothing there was no specific orders of any sort. Just doing
6	your general, basic watch.
7	Q. Was there anything on there about monitoring the weather? In
8	other words, did standing orders say you will monitor the radio
9	for marine weather?
10	A. Negative.
11	Q. Anything about when to wake the captain? In other words, was
12	there a note on there like if you have marine traffic, wake me up
13	or any ice begins to form, wake me up. Were there any, like,
14	instructions like that?
15	A. No, negative.
16	Q. Did he ever verbally tell you don't be afraid to wake me up
17	at any time?
18	A. No, but I mean, that's just kind of the standard. Everyone
19	knows you can wake the skipper up if you've got any questions.
20	Q. So, now we're moving into the watch, Captain Gary takes the
21	vessel out of after the tide changes, takes the vessel out
22	through Whale Pass and you guys start standing your watches. I'm
23	going to ask Lieutenant Commander Comerford, if he would, to bring

25 exhibit previously. But this talks about -- on the accident

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up the 3:00 a.m. marine weather forecast, which we've used as an

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1	morning at 3:13 a.m., gale warning through Wednesday, heavy,
2	freezing spray running tonight and Wednesday. When you came on
3	watch, how did you know what the weather was going to be? Did the
4	guy you relieved say hey, I listened to the weather forecast and
5	it's getting worse? Or did you turn on the radio and hear this
6	yourself? (Note: Referenced forecast/image can be found on page 67 of this exhibit.)
7	A. I didn't turn the radio on and hear that myself, I just stood
8	my watch. I mean, we were bucking into it, kind of quartering it,
9	I guess. That first initial check we got out and it was a little
10	shitty out, but not, like, quite what it was forecasted quite yet
11	and it just progressively got worse. So, Gary had stood another
12	watch after that before this all happened. What day is this?
13	This is the day after we departed?
14	Q. Yes, this would be the accident morning.
15	A. Yeah, I mean, I recall go ahead.
16	Q. No, you recall?
17	A. Hearing well, like, the today one, that was common
18	knowledge in Kodiak when we left. I mean, I believe it called for
19	shittier than that, honestly. But definitely I remember
20	hearing freezing spray on the VHF in the wheelhouse before we were
21	leaving and I thought it was more along the lines of 20-foot seas
22	and 30 to 40-knot winds. That, to me I thought that would stay
23	in the harbor because the whole stack of gear, like, that's just a
24	recipe for disaster. I mean, we've learned that over the years
25	from watching bad stuff happen.
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Q. When you were on watch, did you hear -- did you -- I think you answered it, but I just want to be clear if you heard a marine weather forecast? Did you listen to any weather radio channels specifically? Or did the Coast Guard make any broadcast that you listened to and then switched over to 22 for the weather -- VHF channel 22 or anything like that?

7 No, I was just monitoring the Coast Guard channel and then I Α. 8 think -- I can't -- I don't want to say anything wrong, I just 9 don't remember correctly. But I'm going to go on a limb here and 10 if I remember correctly, the marine traffic channel was on there 11 too. But I can't remember back on exactly which ones were being 12 monitored. I know the at least Coast Guard one was being 13 monitored a hundred percent. I know I never heard the weather and 14 honestly, I knew it was going to be shitty anyways, right, so if 15 I'm going to listen to weather, it's probably going to get better, 16 hopefully.

17 So, you interacted a little bit with the guy that you Q. 18 relieved and the guy -- if I was you, I would have a guy that I 19 relieved and then a quy comes on and relieves me. Did any of you and your -- the crew on the boat have discussion underway -- we 20 21 showed you that chart of where anchorages were, did you guys have 22 a conversation about maybe we could duck out of here and get out 23 of this weather, or turn around, or stop, or slow down? And I'm 24 talking about way before the accident, I'm talking about going 25 down the Shelikof Strait.

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1	A. No, there was never a discussion. The only discussion I had
2	was my last watch with Dean and that was it and that was the
3	chains that we had put across the stack on the starboard side
4	where we leave an opening so you can have a visual down. You
5	can't see anything else, but you'll be able to see the bow from
6	the captain's chair. There was not as many pots there so that the
7	chains would actually come off the top tier and then come down to
8	the rail. So, there was nothing touching the chain to hold it, it
9	was just a tight line. But after my watch, you know, a little ice
10	had accumulated on it a little bit on the crab walk, nothing big.
11	But I left where those chains were sagging out a little bit even
12	though they were taut, but it was kind of sagging and I told Dean,
13	I go those chains are going to be a mother fucker to get off later
14	and we just kind of chuckled about it, you know. But it wasn't,
15	like, a dire situation like man, look at all that ice, it was just
16	that's going to be a pain in the ass.
17	Q. And when you saw ice on the crab walk and those observations
18	about the chain angle, that was your first watch after
19	A. Second.
20	Q. The second? So, that would be on the morning or the
21	afternoon of the accident day? Like early in the morning?
22	A. I guess it would be, yeah. I mean, I was I thought it was
23	my it was maybe the second to last watch, then. But yeah, I
24	just remember that's all I remember, just that little blip of a
25	conversation.
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1	Q. So, did any of your watch mates or the captain ever say
2	anything to you about from the captain's point of view like if
3	ice because you're going out in the freezing spray, did he say
4	if ice begins to form, do this, notify me immediately? Did he
5	give you a measurement? Did he say if more than an inch of ice
6	forms, don't hesitate to call me? Was there any kind of
7	instruction that you got from him or the crew persons that you
8	relieved?
9	A. No, negative.
10	Q. So, we think you were on watch and I know it's hard, it's
11	been a long time. But, you know, like, 6:00, 7:00 in the morning
12	of the accident day, that would've been one of your first watches.
13	Do you remember that morning, any ice on the boat? I think it
14	would've been the 6:00 to 7:00 timeframe.
15	A. Not that I recall or remember. I just know that the first I
16	saw was on those chains, like I told you, and it was daylight
17	then. I can give you that much. It was light out, it was not
18	dark when I ended up I just remember seeing that.
19	Q. So, we've estimated that daylight in your neck of the woods
20	on the boat, on that date would've been around 10:00 in the
21	morning. So, it would've been after that early morning watch
22	based on your daylight (indiscernible).
23	A. Right.
24	MR. FAWCETT: Commander, if you'll put up the image of the (NOTE: Referenced image is on pg 68 of this
25	clinometer? exhibit.)
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BY	MR.	FAWCETT:
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1

2	Q. So, we worked really hard to find these images and it's
3	important in the testimony that Mr. Gribble talked about the
4	vessel heeling a couple of degrees and then later on, captain said
5	20 degrees. And this is a photograph taken by Mr. Jacobson on one
6	of his surveys that shows the active bulkhead of the Scandies
7	Rose. Do you recall looking at that device?
8	A. I mean, I saw it, but I didn't, like, monitor it. We were
9	the boat was never handing to one side, right well, until it
10	did. But, I mean, you could watch that thing all day in a decent
11	amount of seas where the boat's heeling over but then righting
12	back you know, it's righting arm coming back and so forth. I
13	mean, the only time I would ever look at that out of concern would
14	be if the boat was not really acting like it was in response when
15	coming back to the righting arm.
16	Q. So, you saw that on the boat, do you think it worked? In
17	other words, if I don't mount that square with the in time with
18	the center line and if the pendulum won't swing, did you ever see
19	it appear to operate correctly when you were on the boat?
20	A. I mean, honestly, it's not something I even thought about to
21	make sure it was working correctly. I mean, you could see it
22	move, but yeah, no.
23	Q. And the next image I'm going to show you is another piece of
24	bridge equipment and once again, this is from Mr. Jacobson's
25	photographs Captain Jacobson's and this is the windspeed
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1	gauge and at one point, Captain Cobban mentioned windspeeds at 60
2	to 70 knots. So, this is above the actual chart table, looking at
3	(Note: Referenced image can be found do you recall seeing that? on page 69 of this exhibit.)
4	A. No, I couldn't think back to that right now. Actually, I was
5	I mean, it was right next to the radio, but I never monitored
6	it. So, I'm sure I saw it, but I never messed with it at all.
7	MR. FAWCETT: And then I just have a couple more questions.
8	If you could put up the image, if you would, of the vessel
9	<pre>track? (Note: Referenced image can be found on page 70 of this exhibit.)</pre>
10	So, we've done exhaustive analysis of the vessel movements
11	based on the automatic identification system. And so, this is the
12	it's the other one, I think I might've just missed it. Okay,
13	this right here
14	And if you could zoom in, Commander?
15	So, what you have is the Scandies Rose going down the track
16	and if you look where the brackets are
17	Yeah, there you go. 1820 to 1920, this is the accident night
18	and based on our analysis, you might have been on watch. It's not
19	so much a
20	Commander, in the box, just back where you were.
21	BY MR. FAWCETT:
22	Q. You see how the vessel begins to yaw on the track? Now, do
23	you have any idea when you were on watch, do you remember the
24	vessel, like, maybe going from 10 degrees off track to starboard
25	to port, to starboard to port during that last rocky set?
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1 A. No, negative.

2	Q. No? Did you have to adjust the autopilot on the voyage when
3	you know, we're talking about the last watch, you said to
4	compensate for the seas because both you and Mr. Gribble said the
5	sea's height was increasing all the time?
6	A. Yeah, I believe I adjusted it a little bit on one of my
7	watches, if I remember right, just because of the way the swell
8	was coming in. It was not you know, it was pitching us pretty
9	hard and I like to usually try and give people some sleep and just
10	a small adjustment will help the ride substantially, you'd be
11	surprised. But, I mean, I can't tell you when that was, where we
12	were at, it's just something I would generally do as long as it's
13	not going to take us way off course. If it's just a small change
14	to help the way the vessel's cutting through the water then I'll
15	usually do something to that nature.
16	Q. So, when you were on watch, I don't know if you had a
17	conversation with Mr. Gribble, but did you have the ability, as
18	the guy standing the bridge watch, to slow the vessel down or
19	speed the vessel up based on, you know, the sea conditions? Could
20	you have pulled the throttle back to (indiscernible)?
21	A. Yeah, especially if we're taking peelers over the bow, you
22	know, we don't want to sit there and beat the shit out of the
23	boat. So, that was never we never were taking the right wave
24	to where it would constitute pulling back on the throttle because
25	they weren't, like, breaking over. We weren't making them no,

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1 I just -- we weren't -- I had no reason to pull throttle back at 2 the time I was on watch. I guess that's my answer to that 3 question. 4 So, the NTSB report, there's just one factor, they talked Q. 5 about the ice accumulation at approximately one-and-a-half inches 6 per hour and six to 15 inches on the boat. Did you see any ice 7 accumulating on your very last watch anywhere near, like, an inch-8 and-a-half an hour? 9 No. I mean, I would -- that's something I would recognize Α. 10 and I would be concerned about. There was nothing like that and 11 there was no -- I've seen stanchions get -- go from being a three-12 inch pipe to 16 inches around. I've never sank a boat, I've never 13 seen it, like, completely screw us over, but we could definitely 14 break it off. 15 MR. FAWCETT: So, Captain, the next section, if you would, 16 sir? 17 Thank you, very much. 18 MR. LAWLER: Yes, sir. 19 MR. FAWCETT: Do you need to take a break, sir, or are you 20 okay? MR. LAWLER: No, I'm doing okay. 21 22 MR. FAWCETT: Because we're moving along very well and I 23 think we're in good shape from the Coast Guard side, so we have a 24 25 MR. LAWLER: No disrespect, I just assumed it was over with. FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902 Balt. & Annap. 410-974-0947

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1 Was that --

2

BY CAPT CALLAGHAN:

Q. Right. So, again, appreciate -- really do appreciate your time and the fact that you are -- really are providing us with a lot of additional information. During the voyage, I know you roomed with Mr. Gribble, but can you talk to us about the interaction with the other crew? Did you all eat meals together during the voyage?

9 Α. No, unfortunately not. That was a little -- kind of a weird 10 dynamic that I had never experienced, usually -- especially when 11 you're underway, travelling a long distance have, like, a meal 12 together and everything else. The only thing I remember eating 13 that was warm cooked was pizzas Dave got from town and he put some 14 -- actually, no, he made sandwiches, too. He called them watch 15 sandwiches, I remember that. So -- but as far as, like, all of 16 them eating at the galley table, no, nothing ever happened. He 17 made sandwiches, left them on the counter by the sink and then at 18 another point in time, I ate a slice of pizza that was sitting on 19 the galley table downstairs.

Q. Okay. So, essentially it was -- interaction was just in passing between watches or during the day when you'd be working prior to departure. But once you departed, did you have interaction with any of the crew besides Mr. Gribble and David, who you were taking the watch from?

25 A. Sorry, my headphones died here, but I've got you on the

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1	computer now. Let's see here. I mean, like, the first initial,
2	like, getting underway, I guess to Art a few times. But then
3	after that, like, when we kind of got into the main part of our
4	travel, honestly, I never saw anybody. Doors were always closed,
5	the state room was in I saw Dino (ph.) downstairs, you know,
6	and I know him so we sat there and bull shit a little bit. But
7	other than that, yeah nobody, I can't say that I had any
8	interaction with anybody, honestly.
9	Q. So, during any of your watches do you recall hearing the
10	captain up during any of your watches during that voyage?
11	A. No.
12	Q. So, just to take that one step further, at any time when
13	during that voyage, do you recall seeing the captain when he
14	wasn't on watch?
15	A. No.
16	Q. Okay. I'm going to ask Mr. Comerford to pull up another
17	image here. And so, I'm just going to talk a little bit about
18	some of the testing that was done prior to and so, this is the
19	photo of Mr. Gribble holding up a urine sample. Do you happen to
20	(Note: Referenced image can be found on know when this was taken? page 71 of this exhibit.)
21	A. That was the night that we left.
22	Q. So, do you remember how far in advanced prior to departure?
23	A. Oh boy, a few hours. I know that was one of the hinging
24	points was we had to send that to the office and we went up to the
25	office to give to Julia. So, I think he went up and faxed that
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1	stuff through Ocean Beauty, I believe.
2	Q. Do you remember were you involved I'm sorry, what was
3	that?
4	A. Oh, he had to fax pre-contracts and so forth that evening as
5	well, I believe. So, go ahead, though.
6	Q. Do you know if anyone actually so, when the testing was
7	conducted on board like that, do you know if it was conducted
8	similar to how the DOT requirements? Was anyone witnessing the
9	testing?
10	A. No, it was just kind of really, it was more like a non-
11	formal I think Gary gave that to him and said go fill this up
12	and then brought that up to Gary, I believe, was all how that
13	worked. There was nothing specific about it. There was
14	sometimes there would be someone that comes down to the boat to do
15	these, like in Dutch Harbor they got a guy that comes down. But
16	this was just dockside from Gary.
17	CAPT CALLAGHAN: Okay.
18	Thank you, Mr. Comerford, you can pull that down.
19	BY CAPT CALLAGHAN:
20	Q. So, Mr. Lawler, do you know why Mr. Gribble would've tested
21	positive for THC after he was rescued?
22	A. Yeah, I can give you the honest answer on that. He told
23	because I know him, they were talking about it and he told Gary
24	I think he even Julia that, you know, he had smoked marijuana back
25	home and that he wasn't going to be able to pass. He told her
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1	that multiple times, he told me, he also told Gary that and then
2	when he got the pass you know, a wink and a nod pass because
3	Gary wants to go fishing, he was even surprised because he told
4	Julia that he was not going to he had just smoked weed down in
5	Seattle, you know, the day before we came up. So that, clearly,
6	as you probably know, stays in your system for quite some time.
7	It doesn't just go away, so that would be my assumption there as
8	why he tested positive. I never smelled any weed from him at all.
9	Q. Okay. Yeah, that was going to be my next question. Did you
10	ever see him smoke or ingest any while you were on board?
11	A. No, I just always smelled cigarettes around him and I didn't
12	tail him, so I don't know his business or, you know but he was
13	I remember the conversation that he talked about with telling
14	me about Julia because she said well, you can't do that. And he's
15	like well, then I'm not going to come up because I just smoked so
16	I wouldn't be able to pass the test right now and Gary assured him
17	that it was fine. So and I think even Dan Matson (ph.) had
18	confirmed that, too, about how with something smaller like that
19	they'll give the guy it's a trip across to go to Dutch and if
20	you don't test negative by then or whatever you're going to get
21	fired.
22	CAPT CALLAGHAN: Okay. All right, so as Mr. Fawcett kind of
23	said, we're kind of going through really well, so I appreciate
24	that. And we do have kind of to get into the last line of

25 questioning that we have for you, and so we're going to kind of

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1	shift now from the voyage itself. We're going to shift kind of
2	towards abandonment and rescue stage. So, I'm going to ask Mr.
3	Comerford to pull up an image.
4	(Off the record)
5	(On the record)
6	BY CAPT CALLAGHAN:
7	Q. All right, so looking at this picture here, does this look
8	similar to the life raft equipment bag that you that was
9	(Note: Referenced image can be found located in the raft with you? on page 72 of this exhibit.)
10	A. I believe it was yellow also, yes. But I couldn't tell you
11	if it was exactly the same. But similar the way it's rolled up at
12	the end, yeah.
13	Q. And you both you and Mr. Gribble had testified that a
14	number of flares were fired. Do you recall who fired the flares
15	off?
16	A. That was me.
17	Q. Okay, so you fired the flares?
18	A. Yeah.
19	Q. Do you remember what type of flares they were?
20	A. They were I'm trying to think now. I mean, they were
21	it was not a flare gun, it was the sticks that I forget how you
22	deploy them. You pull on the ass of it and it will fire off at
23	the end, make sure you're point it the right direction.
24	Q. So, I get the oh, you're fine.
25	A. Go ahead.
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1	Q. Were they all the rocket parachute type flares?
2	A. Yeah, but then there was a few that were the floating one
3	that just I don't know the technical term for it, but they just
4	sit there like a road flare essentially, right. And I had packed
5	three of those the hell away because all I could think of was it
6	was going to puncture the raft because all the sparks and
7	everything going. I was trying to hang it out as far as I could,
8	but the wind was blowing it right towards us so it was blowing it
9	back in, and so I we got rid of those.
10	Q. Do you recall how many of those you had and how many of the
11	rocket type you launched?
12	A. I believe there was, like, six rocket types and maybe, like,
13	two or three of those road flare types if I remember correctly.
14	Q. Okay, and all of them had been fired off?
15	A. Yeah.
16	Q. So, with to stay on the same subject and I know both you
17	and Mr. Gribble had talked to us about the difficulty of moving
18	around and using different items in those survival suits. Can you
19	talk to us about how difficult it was to fire the flares off with
20	those mittens on?
21	A. The flares weren't too bad as far as like I mean, you
22	don't utilize them, but getting into that bag was a son of a
23	bitch. And then, of course, the whole and I should probably
24	say this anyway so I'm not being a bitch about it, but the raft
25	was full of water so all the shit came piling out. And the
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1	flares, you know, they don't float so they would sink to the
2	bottom and we'd try and, like, reach down there and get shit out.
3	I don't know.
4	Q. So, to talk about the survival suits a little bit more. Do
5	you recall there being lights on the survival suits?
6	A. Yeah, there was lights. Dean's still was on, mine was ripped
7	off in the my suits here, but you can see how it ripped through
8	the neoprene that holds the bladder because it was on the front
9	there and then it's ripped through. I think that was just from
10	scrambling, trying to get out, it ripped off.
11	Q. And then Mr. Gribble had talked about the lights in the raft
12	and had mentioned that they had gone out in a fairly short period
13	of time. Can you talk about that scenario, what light in
14	particular had gone out?
15	A. Well, the canopy light.
16	Q. And so, was that the interior canopy light that you're
17	referring to?
18	A. Well, I mean, you could see it illuminated through the top,
19	right, and I believe it's the one that you can locate us with.
20	The one, like the same one I can see on the other raft, you
21	know, whenever however far away it was bobbing in the swell.
22	That's the same light that went out on ours. So, our raft
23	would've looked dark to a helicopter if I wouldn't have had the
24	flashlight. I mean, they might've been able to pick up a heat
25	signature or something.
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1	CAPT CALLAGHAN: All right. I'm going to turn it over to Mr.
2	Fawcett, he's got a few additional questions. But thank you very
3	much.
4	BY MR. FAWCETT:
5	Q. Mr. Lawler, the canopy light the captain asked about, was it
6	a blinking light or a steady light?
7	A. A steady light.
8	Q. A steady light? And when you mentioned that the life raft
9	equipment bag was hard to get into, are you talking about where it
10	was or how you opened it?
11	A. How you opened it.
12	Q. And when you reached in there, how long did it take you to
13	find the flashlight the handheld flashlight? Was it right
14	there in the top of the bag or in the sort of the first pile
15	equipment?
16	A. It's hard to really recall, but I feel like everything was
17	just kind of mixed in there, like, no rhyme or reason, it was just
18	all kind of packed in. Yeah, (indiscernible).
19	Q. So, it was not, like, the first thing you were able to grab?
20	A. I don't believe so.
21	Q. So, I want to take you back to a moment where you're on the
22	vessel, and you're off watch, and Mr. Gribble has relieved you,
23	and then he gets relieved. Were you awake the whole time from the
24	time you went below to your room and then later on Mr. Gribble
25	came in that night and came into the room, were you awake that
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1 whole time?

2 I think I nodded off a little bit, but I -- in and out of a Α. movie and then I started another movie as soon as he came down 3 4 because he had movies on his computer so I was able to have him 5 transfer it to me. 6 And did you feel any degree of the vessel beginning to list Q. 7 at any time? So, Dean comes down -- Mr. Gribble comes down into 8 the cabin with you, you're maybe talking, watching a movie, did 9 you see anything that would indicate the vessel beginning -- you 10 know, we're trying to get a handle on how it went from two degrees 11 to 20 degrees.

12 A. Yeah --

13 Q. Did you see, like, a gradual shift?

14 No, not at all and that's the crazy thing. It was -- I'm Α. 15 high enough up, we were second tier on there -- I mean, I'm not 16 saying I know everything or whatever else, but I just -- when I 17 left boats, even my boat -- or I can -- you can feel when you're 18 not trim. You're not -- you know, something's not right, you've 19 got too much fuel on one side or -- it's minute, too, like with --20 you just feel it. I never really felt that in my bunk, like, you 21 could just feel like it was rolling -- you know, favoring one 22 weight of your body on one side of your shoulder because you're 23 kind of leaning or the boat's not coming back.

The only thing I noticed in my rack -- and I said it to Dean, too, I said that just sounds funny, like, it was just --

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something's off by that. We would cut through the waves and we would come down and the whole boat would -- it felt like there was slapping inside, so we're slap and just a shudder. But I was like, you know, maybe it's just this boat, you know, it rides funny. But now that I think about it, it's like that's the feeling that you would have with a flag tank of some sort.

7 But I don't know, that's all speculation. So, I never -- to 8 answer your question, no, the list, that was a hundred percent 9 from -- to me, what felt like nothing to -- it jarred me in my 10 bunk to where it threw me to the one side, like, all of a sudden. 11 It wasn't like the gradual like you were saying, I thought we were 12 turning around to go to town or something or somewhere, that's 13 what it felt like. It felt like we went hard over on the wheel 14 and -- you know, like, on the sand where you'll really feel that 15 with that boom up like that. It'll dig in heeled over and then it 16 will right back up, but it never came back, it was just downhill. 17 So, the phone call that captain made, you know, to one of his Q. 18 colleagues, he was talking about initially it was 20 degrees and 19 then in another conversation it had gotten a lot worse. So, at no 20 point -- to your recollection, do you recall the vessel being, for 21 a time, at a 20-degree-angle and then all of a sudden at some 22 later time it gets knocked down? And that's when you exited the 23 cabin and you knew you had an emergency. So, at any point did you 24 feel a hang at 20 degrees? 25 No, but I was also -- I was -- I had fallen -- I had just Α.

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1	finished up Dean came down, I got that movie, like I said, it
2	was (indiscernible) and I watched that all the way up until, like,
3	the end and then I started to nod off. I had a I don't want to
4	give you the detail of that, but I had a creepy dream that was on
5	the boat and then I woke up to pure mayhem. That was like
6	almost like my mind was letting me know that something bad was
7	about to happen in my sleep. I don't know yeah
8	Q. So, I just want to clarify, you mentioned when the captain
9	asked you our captain asked you about the drug testing for Mr.
10	Gribble.
11	A. Yeah.
12	Q. You mentioned, I think, a wink and a nod, he had said that he
13	had smoked marijuana previously. Was the drug test negative?
14	A. I don't
15	Q. The actual drug test?
16	A. I don't I couldn't say yes or no because it I mean, it
17	looked like it in the picture, but it just I don't know what
18	defines a negative test on there usually. I've never I don't
19	have the profession to know that, I guess.
20	Q. Did anyone bring drugs on board the vessel, and by drugs, I
21	mean dangerous or controlled substances of any kind that you're
22	aware of?
23	A. Not that I'm aware of. I mean, I don't know a lot of guys
24	that were on there, you know, personally, their personal habits.
25	I mean, you hear stories and stuff of people, but nothing that I
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1 was ever visually able to see and that I was made aware of from 2 anybody. 3 MR. FAWCETT: Thank you, sir, that's the questions I have. 4 Captain? 5 CAPT CALLAGHAN: Thank you, Mr. Fawcett. 6 So, this -- that concludes the formal questions that we had 7 for you at the moment. What I'd like to do is take a five-minute 8 recess quick to make sure we have nothing else for you and then 9 open it up to you after that. So, we're going to go ahead -- it's 10 11:05 -- take a five-minute recess and we'll come back into 11 session at 11:10. 12 MR. LAWLER: Okay. 13 (Off the record at 11:05 a.m.) 14 (On the record at 11:10 a.m.) 15 CAPT CALLAGHAN: Recording back up. 16 BY CAPT CALLAGHAN: 17 I just have a couple follow-on questions for you, sir. We're Q. 18 going to go back to kind of the setup -- when you talked about 19 setting up the stack prior to departure, you talked about 20 interacting with Art a couple times during the setup. Can you try 21 and talk to us a little more specifically on who may have kind of 22 given you the instruction on exactly how the setup was going to 23 be? Was there anyone in particular that talked to you about the 24 fact that there was no alley ways used on board? 25 It was Art and -- collaboration between Art and Brock because Α. FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902

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1 they'd been on the boat for a bit of time and I had mentioned the 2 alley way thing and they said we just don't put one on this boat. 3 So, that's all I got out of that, it was pretty uneventful after. 4 But I said all right, if that's what you want me to do, that's 5 what I'll do.

6 Okay, and then to follow up, you had talked a little bit Q. 7 about an observation of the stack while you were standing watch 8 and kind of the chain that you were using as a reference point. 9 Can you talk about -- just try to discern at what point you may 10 have had that conversation with Dean regarding the ice buildup on 11 there and how it was going to cause some trouble getting those 12 chains off later? Anyway, you can try to recall a little more --13 that was as you were handing over the watch in the morning or 14 maybe in the evening watch?

A. It was daylight out, that's all I remember on that. So, I'm not -- I don't want to say anything wrong there, but it was

17 daylight and it was right when I was handing it off.

18 Q. Okay. And do you have -- the last question I have for you is

19 the arrival into -- do you still have any of the ticket

20 information from when you arrived into Kodiak?

21 A. No, because that would've all gone down with the vessel.

22 Q. Okay.

25

23 A. I think you might be able to get that from Julia, maybe,

24 because I think --

CAPT CALLAGHAN: Yeah, we'll follow with --

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1	Mr. Barcott, we'll follow up with you to see if from the
2	company side if that has been provided or if that's something that
3	we can try and locate.
4	Okay, sir, so that's all the questions we have at the moment.
5	But we want to take the opportunity to provide an opportunity for
6	the parties in interest to ask any additional questions as well.
7	So, we'll start
8	Mr. Barcott, any questions from you, sir?
9	MR. BARCOTT: Thank you, Captain.
10	Thank you, Mr. Lawler.
11	And no, I don't have any questions, thank you.
12	CAPT CALLAGHAN: All right, thank you, Mr. Barcott.
13	Mr. Stacy, any questions from you, sir?
14	MR. STACEY: Captain, no questions from us, thank you.
15	CAPT CALLAGHAN: Thank you, Mr. Stacy.
16	So, Mr. Lawler, at this time, I just want to provide you the
17	opportunity if there's anything additional that maybe you'd like
18	maybe we didn't cover in this session previous that you'd like
19	to pass to us as we try and complete the report here.
20	MR. LAWLER: Any information or suggestions is what you're
21	asking me?
22	CAPT CALLAGHAN: Either.
23	MR. LAWLER: I mean, I have a list of stuff I'm making and I
24	was going to send that to you personally. But you did touch on
25	something today that could be a potential help later. We were
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1 talking about the righting arm of the boat, you know, every boat 2 reacts differently and has a certain amount of time that it can 3 hang before it's supposed to come back. They have thing called 4 the murphy switch that, you know, could be implemented into the boat where if the boat hangs from one side for too long and it's 5 6 not coming back, that will sound a general alarm -- or an alarm. 7 You know, maybe there an inexperienced crew that doesn't know to 8 notify people or wake people, but that could definitely give the 9 few extra seconds that some people might need to get out when they 10 need to.

11 I got lots of little ideas and things, I mean, lightings and 12 other things for -- like the rafts, for instance, I mean, that was 13 the basic -- well, I don't even this it was an LED bulb, honestly, 14 that was in those things. We've come so far now that they make --15 those rafts should be lit up like a UFO out there with the strip 16 lighting -- LED strips that they sell now that can be sewed into 17 There's just a lot of things that can definitely be that stuff. 18 improved on. There's been enough time that's gone by, enough 19 accidents that have happened that can definitely have been learned 20 form and actually proactively change some things for the future. 21 I'll send that over to you when I get the chance.

CAPT CALLAGHAN: Sure. So -- and we appreciate that and so what I would ask is -- just appreciate all the information you've provided. Not just today, but in those conversations and previous recommendations. You know, as having someone -- being someone

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1	who's gone through it, the information that you can provide us is
2	really the best information we can possibly use to make for the
3	recommendations as we move forward. What I would ask is, you
4	know, kind of ask for you to consider really trying to get that
5	stuff down on paper or in an email to us in the next week or two
6	as we are really trying to make a lot of progress here, fill in
7	the gaps in our report, and trying to get this completed in a
8	timely fashion. So, having that information ahead of time will
9	certainly do us all well and not have us try to put that
10	information in later. So, if we could ask just you know,
11	within the next week or two if you could send that to us.
12	MR. LAWLER: Yes, sir.
13	BY CAPT CALLAGHAN:
14	Q. I did have one so, you kind of mentioned one follow-on
15	question for you. We talked about the alarms, you had mentioned
16	that your thought process was that it was an oil pressure alarm or
17	something similar. Any like, at any point was the general
18	alarm tested on board prior to the voyage?
19	A. Yeah, it was. It was pulled just to so, everyone knows
20	what it sounds like.
21	Q. Okay. And just to be clear, so the alarms that we heard in
22	the audio sections during the mayday call, were those similar to
23	in nature to the general alarm?
24	A. Yeah, I mean, that's if I remember back, that's what
25	about what it would sound like too. But it was not pulled Gary
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1 never pulled it. I was the first one up in the wheelhouse to ask 2 him what was going on and he was just spun, he didn't know -- the alarm was never going off. It didn't go off until I was outside 3 4 and then Dean came after me. And it -- like I said, you know, 5 when the boat starts heeling that much, it's typically the oil 6 just going somewhere it shouldn't be and it's -- you know, the 7 engines are turning sideways and it's not picking up the oil. So, 8 loss of pressure, it's going to send that for a loop and you can 9 tell by the way that the black smoke was coming out of the stacks, 10 just billowing out of it before they died and then the boat went 11 dark.

12 CAPT CALLAGHAN: All right. Thank you, Mr. Lawler. At this 13 time, I have no more questions and really, again, I appreciate 14 your time. I know it's been a while since we did the hearing and, 15 you know, I really appreciate time and answer the questions for us 16 today. It really helps fill in some of the gaps we had and some 17 of the questions we had based on previous testimony from all the 18 witnesses. So, I really appreciate that and we continue to do our 19 best to make this the most thorough investigation and report that 20 we can, and all the information that we can add from this will 21 greatly improve that. So, thank you. As always, if you have any 22 questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

And same with parties of interest, if you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. As we said, this will be -- interview will be turned into a transcript through the

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1	National Transportation Safety Board and that transcript will be
2	added to the record as an exhibit. So, if there are no further
3	questions at this time
4	Again, Mr. Lawler, just want to thank you and unless you have
5	any other questions, sir, this will conclude our interview session
6	today.
7	MR. LAWLER: Yeah, negative, no further questions from me.
8	CAPT CALLAGHAN: Thank you very much, sir. This now
9	concludes our interview. The time is 11:24, Pacific Coast Time on
10	August 30th, 2021.
11	MR. LAWLER: Thank you.
12	(Whereupon, the interview 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: CAPSIZING OF THE SCANDIES ROSE F/V NEAR SUTWIK ISLAND, ALASKA ON DECEMBER 31, 2019 Interview of John Lawler

ACCIDENT NO.: DCA20FM009

PLACE: Via Zoom

DATE:

August 30, 2021

was held according to the record, and that this is the original, complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed to the best of my skill and ability.

Carolyn Hanna Transcriber

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Looking towards the bow

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Potential Anchorages or Safe Havens for the F/V SCANDIES ROSE Accident Voyage





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...GALE WARNING THROUGH WEDNESDAY... ...HEAVY FREEZING SPRAY WARNING TONIGHT AND WEDNESDAY...

.TODAY...W wind 30 kt becoming NW 40 kt in the afternoon. Seas 17 ft. Freezing spray. .TONIGHT...NW wind 45 kt. Seas 21 ft. Heavy freezing spray. Snow showers. .WED...W wind 45 kt. Seas 21 ft. Heavy freezing spray. Snow showers. .WED NIGHT...W wind 40 kt. Seas 16 ft.

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