# **REDACTED per RCW 42.56.230**



# **Rail Incident Investigation Report**

Docket No: TR- 200941	Report Date: 6/14/2021
Railroad Owning Track: BNSF Railway Co.	Railroad Operating on Track: BNSF Railway Co.
FRA Investigation: Yes No 🛛	Inspector: Dan Larson
I. Type of Accident	
Public Crossing Private Crossing	Trestle Pedestrian at Crossing
Pedestrian Not at Crossing X Other (explain)	
II. Time and Location of Accident	
Date: 11/16/2020	Time: 08:55
USDOT Crossing No.: N/A	UTC Crossing No.:
Railroad Milepost: 114.8	GPS Identifier: Lat: 45.927280 Lon: -122.757028
Number of Tracks: 2	City: Woodland County: Cowlitz
Road name, yard name, bridge: Dike Access Road Bridge	
III. Conditions Surrounding the Accident	
Weather: Clear to cloudy ☐ Fog ☐ Rain ☒ Snow	
Road Condition: Dry Wet Snow Ice	
Visibility Due to Weather: Daylight 🛛 Darkness 🔲 U	Jnknown
Train Type: Freight 🛛 Passenger 🔲 Locomotive only 🔲	Cars only Train Speed: 50
Haz-Mat on Train: Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐	Remote Control: Yes \( \subseteq \ No \( \subseteq \ N/A \)
Type of Haz-Mat:	
IV. Pedestrian, Driver, or Passenger Fatalities Does this se	ection apply? Yes 🔽 No 🔲
Number of Fatalities: 1	vehicle accident, number of passengers: N/A
Name: Ariel Elizabeth Dalton	
Driver: ☐ Passenger ☐ Pedestrian ☒ Age	Gender: Male Female In non-binary
Pedestrian trying to get on/off train? Yes ☐ No ☒ Suici	de: Yes No Undetermined
Alcohol: Yes No Undetermined Information	n supplied by:
Drugs: Yes ☐ No ☐ Undetermined ☒ Information	n supplied by:
Names of additional fatalities:	

Docket No: TR- 200941	
V. Pedestrian, Driver, or Passenger Injuries Does this section	n apply? Yes 🔲 No 🔽
Number of people injured:	rehicle accident, number of passengers:
Name:	
Driver: Passenger: Pedestrian: Age:	Gender: Male Female non-binary
Pedestrian trying to get on/off train? Yes No	
Drugs: Yes No Undetermined Alcol	nol: Yes No Undetermined
Names of additional injured persons:	
VI. Pedestrian Access (not at a Crossing)  Does this section	on apply? Yes 🔽 No 🔲
Obvious signs of consistent pedestrian trespass? Yes No	₫
If yes, describe:	
Pedestrian (not at a crossing) information: Accessing public area	? Yes No X
If yes, describe:	
Deterrents at site, e.g. fence, signs, other? Yes X No X	
If yes, describe: The location is difficult to walk to, due to the slop	e of the grade surrounding the bridge.
Previous collisions at or near site? Yes No X  If yes, describe:	
	on apply? Yes ☐ No ☑
VII. Crossing History Does this sect	on apply? Yes 🔲 No 🔽
Prior accidents at this crossing? Yes No	How many?
Dates of prior accidents:	
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama	ge)
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?	ge)
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama	ge)
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?	ge)
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?	ge)
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?  Defects? Yes No If yes, describe:  VIII. Attachments  Railroad incident report? Yes No	ge)  Local law enforcement report? Yes No
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?  Defects? Yes No If yes, describe:  VIII. Attachments	
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?  Defects? Yes No If yes, describe:  VIII. Attachments  Railroad incident report? Yes No	Local law enforcement report? Yes ☑ No □
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?  Defects? Yes No If yes, describe:  VIII. Attachments  Railroad incident report? Yes No Coroner/medical examiner report? Yes No Death Certificate? Yes No No Other (describe):	Local law enforcement report? Yes ☑ No ☐ Pictures? Yes ☑ No ☐
Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?  Defects? Yes No If yes, describe:  VIII. Attachments  Railroad incident report? Yes No Coroner/medical examiner report? Yes No Death Certificate? Yes No No	Local law enforcement report? Yes ☑ No ☐ Pictures? Yes ☑ No ☐
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Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property dama Last inspection date?  Defects? Yes No If yes, describe:  VIII. Attachments  Railroad incident report? Yes No Coroner/medical examiner report? Yes No Death Certificate? Yes No No Other (describe):	Local law enforcement report? Yes ☑ No ☐ Pictures? Yes ☑ No ☐

Docket No: TR- 200941
IX. Comments
Event Summary:
On November 16, 2020, at 8:55 pm, Ariel Elizabeth Dalton, age 30, was walking north on BNSF Main 1 Track on the Seattle Sub when she was stuck by a northbound BNSF train. Video from the lead locomotive shows she walking within the gage of the railroad tracks. The video and witness statements indicate the individual made an effort to move from the tracks when the train was only 20 yards from the impact sight. The point of impact was at a railroad bridge over Dike Access Road and under Interstate-5 in Woodland, WA. The BNSF locomotive video and data recorder shows the engineer put the train into emergency and sounded the bell and whistle to warn her. The BNSF train was traveling northbound on Main 1 under PTC control, the emergency brakes were applied, and the train slowed to 50 MPH at the time of impact. The primary investigation was completed by the Woodland Police Department with assistance from the Cowlitz County Coroner and BNSF Police. The individual was examined by the Cowlitz County Coroner and determined that the cause of death was multiple blunt force trauma from the locomotive.
Site Description:
Site Description:
The location of the point of impact was on or adjacent to the bridge over Dike Access Road in Woodland, WA. This bridge has steep drop offs at all four corners. Their is no access to the tracks in the immediate area. The individual must have walked north along the tracks for some time before being struck. Both sides of the bridge have steep shoulders to the ballast that make it difficult to walk up.  Inspector Recommendations:
No recommendations.

ocket No: TR- 200941
ail Safety Supervisor Comments/Sign Off:
eviewed and approved 6-15-2021 - EE
rector of Transportation Safety Comments/Sign Off:
eviewed and approved to close 6-16-2021 - KH

From: <u>State Emergency Operations Officer (MIL)</u>

To: ECY RE SWRO ERTS COORDINATOR; "cowlitzdem@gmail.com"; Hunter, Kathy (UTC); Kenneth W. Holgard; Mark

Daniels (FRA); Michael Pirato; Powell, John (FRA); Randall Boyington; Stacey Thompson (Fed Railroad

Association Reg 8); Stacey Weller; Steven Travers; WUTC Rail Reporting (UTC)

**Subject:** Train vs trespasser - Woodland, State Incident # 20-4035.

**Date:** Monday, November 16, 2020 9:23:56 AM

Please see the below information involving a railroad incident that has been reported to the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Please reply to this email upon confirmation of receipt. Thank you

Name of the Railroad(s) involved: BNSF

Reporting Party Name, Position and Contact Number: Steve Yost, BNSF, 817-593-6823

Time and Date Called in to the State EOC: 11/16/20, 0918

Time and Date of the Event: 11/16/20, 08:55

Mile post and/or Address of Event: RR MP 115.0 (Woodland)

Circumstances of the Incident: NB freight train struck trespasser, no hazmat, unknown extent of injuries, train was just slowing down.

Number of Injuries and/or Fatalities: unknown yet

Type of Rail Cars Involved (tank, hopper, box, flat, etc.): locomotive

Type and Amount of HAZMAT spilled: no

Any Additional Details That Will Assist in Identifying the Necessary Response: none

Name and Phone Local POC: Kevin Baker, 360-608-9974

Railroad Incident Number: 20K113

State EOC Incident Number: 20-4035

### Scott Caldwell

State Emergency Operations Officer Washington Emergency Management Division Building 20: MS: TA-20 Camp Murray, WA 98430-5122 dutyofficer@mil.wa.gov

# Elliott, Vicki (UTC)

From: State Emergency Operations Officer (MIL)
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 10:01 AM

To: Hunter, Kathy (UTC); Kenneth W. Holgard; Mark Daniels (FRA); Michael Pirato; Powell, John (FRA);

Randall Boyington; Stacey Thompson (Fed Railroad Association Reg 8); Stacey Weller; Steven Travers;

WUTC Rail Reporting (UTC)

Cc: DEM Mailbox

**Subject:** FW: NRC#1292373 (Train vs Trespasser - Woodland)

Subject report below for WA State incident #20-4035.

State Emergency Operations Officer/ERD Alert & Warning Center Operations Unit | Response Section State Emergency Management Division (800)-258-5990

----Original Message----

From: HQS-SMB-NRC@uscg.mil <HQS-SMB-NRC@uscg.mil>

Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:55 AM

To: State Emergency Operations Officer (MIL) < Dutyofficer@mil.wa.gov>; State Emergency Operations Officer (MIL)

<Dutyofficer@mil.wa.gov>; Clark, Anthony B (MIL) <Anthony.Clark@mil.wa.gov>

Subject: NRC#1292373

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NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER 1-800-424-8802

\*\*\*GOVERNMENT USE ONLY\*\*\*GOVERNMENT USE ONLY\*\*\*

Information released to a third party shall comply with any applicable federal and/or state Freedom of Information and Privacy Laws

Incident Report # 1292373

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

\*Report taken by NRC on 16-NOV-20 at 12:45 ET.

Incident Type: RAILROAD NON-RELEASE

Incident Cause: TRESPASSER

Affected Area:

Incident occurred on 16-NOV-20 at 08:55 local incident time.

Affected Medium: RAIL REPORT (N/A) / TRESPASSER

DEDORTING BARTY

REPORTING PARTY

Name: STEVE YOST
Organization: BNSF RAILROAD
Address: 2600 LOU MENK DRIVE
FORT WORTH, TX 76131

**Email Address:** 

PRIMARY Phone: (817)5936823

Type of Organization: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

\_\_\_\_\_

SUSPECTED RESPONSIBLE PARTY

Name: UNKNOWN

Organization: Address:

Type of Organization: UNKNOWN

\_\_\_\_\_

INCIDENT LOCATION

MILEPOST 115.0 County: COWLITZ

SUB: SEATTLE

City: WOODLAND State: WA

RELEASED MATERIAL(S)

\_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT** 

CALLER REPORTED A FREIGHT TRAIN FATALLY STRUCK A TRESPASSER ON A

PASSENGER RAIL TRACK.

SENSITIVE INFORMATION

\_\_\_\_\_

INCIDENT DETAILS

Grade Crossing: NO

Location Subdivision: SEATTLE
Railroad Milepost: 115.0
Type of Vehicle Involved:
Crossing Device Type:
Device Operational: YES
DOTCrossing Number:

Date and Time Service was/will be Restored:

Brake Failure: NO

Federal Post-Accident 219.201 Sub Part C Testing Required: NO

Passenger Train Route: YES

Passenger Train Delay Expected: YES

Passenger Train Delay Handling: ONE PASSENGER TRAIN IS BEING DELAYED. PASSENGERS WILL REMAIN ON BOARD OF THE TRAIN.

---RAILROAD INFORMATION---Railroad Involved: BNSF RAILROAD Train Number: GMCOKAH9-09

Train Type: FREIGHT Train Direction: N

Train Speed: Track Speed:

Locomotives: 3 Cars: 115 Derailed:

Suspected DOT Regulation Non Compliance: UNKNOWN

DERAILED CARS:

**IMPACT** 

Fire Involved: NO Fire Extinguished: UNKNOWN

INJURIES: NO Sent to Hospital: Empl/Crew: Passenger: FATALITIES: YES Empl/Crew: Passenger: Occupant: EVACUATIONS:NO Who Evacuated: Radius/Area:

Damages: NO

Hours Direction of

Closure Type Description of Closure Closed Closure

Air: NO

Major

Road: NO Artery:NO

Waterway:NO

Track: YES MAIN TRACK 1 & 2 .9 N/S

Passengers Transferred: NO Environmental Impact: NO Media Interest: UNKNOWN

**REMEDIAL ACTIONS** 

CALLER STATED THE TRACKS ARE STILL CLOSED FOR INVESTIGATION.

Release Secured: UNKNOWN

Release Rate:

**Estimated Release Duration:** 

WEATHER

Weather: RAINY, 47°F Wind speed: 8 MPH Wind direction: ENE

ADDITIONAL AGENCIES NOTIFIED

Federal:

State/Local: LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS;

State/Local On Scene: CLARK COUNTY & COWLITZ COUNTY SHERIFFS

State Agency Number: 20-4035

\_\_\_\_\_

NOTIFICATIONS BY NRC

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (GRASP)

16-NOV-20 12:54 (770)4887100

CGIS D13 FIELD OFFICE (CGIS D13 COMMAND CENTER)

16-NOV-20 12:54 (206)2207141

COWLITZ DEPT OF EMERGENCY MGMT (COMMAND CENTER)

16-NOV-20 12:54 (360)5773130

DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (SECRETARY OPERATION CENTER (SOC))

16-NOV-20 12:54

NATIONAL COORDINATING CTR FOR COMMS (NCC COMM-ISAC)

```
16-NOV-20 12:54 (703)2355626
DHS CYBER & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY (OFC OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION RGN X)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (202)8215301
OFFICE OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION (WA STATE PROTECTIVE SECURITY ADVISOR)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (202)8053379
DOT CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (202)3661863
FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMIN. (MAIN OFFICE (AUTO))
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (202)4930636
FEMA REGION 10 (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (425)4874704
NATIONAL HWY TRANS SAFETY ADMIN (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (202)4412924
NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE COORD CTR (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (202)2829201
NOAA RPTS FOR WA (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (206)5264911
NTSB RAIL (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (202)3146293
OREGON DEQ (EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (503)2296391
OREGON TITAN FUSION CENTER (FUSION COMMAND CENTER)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (877)6204702
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ADMIN (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (801)9180995
SECTOR COLUMBIA RIVER (DETACHED IMD)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (503)2409370
SECTOR COLUMBIA RIVER (MSU PORTLAND)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (503)2409339
OREGON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (800)4520311
WA STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (MAIN OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (800)2585990
TSA OFFICE OF SECURITY OPERATIONS (SURFACE OPS/PSAT - OREGON OFFICE)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (614)7328440
TSA SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY (TWIC ENFORCEMENT)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (206)3875236
USCG DISTRICT 13 (DISTRICT THIRTEEN (DRAT - DRMM))
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (206)2207221
VOLPE CENTER (TRANSPORTATION HUMAN FACTORS)
 16-NOV-20 12:54 (617)4942000
```

WASHINGTON STATE FUSION CENTER (FUSION COMMAND CENTER)

16-NOV-20 12:54 (877)8439522

WA UTILITIES & TRANSPORTATION COMM (RAILROAD SAFETY)

16-NOV-20 12:54 (360)6641160

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CALLER REPORTED WA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MGMT, CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF, COWLITZ COUNTY SHERIFFS WERE NOTIFIED/.

\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* END INCIDENT REPORT #1292373 \*\*\*

Report any problems by calling 1-800-424-8802

## PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT

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From: <u>Service, Interruption Desk</u>

To: WUTC Rail Reporting (UTC); Halstead, Lori (UTC)

Subject: FW: 111620 GMCOKAH909 - trespasser - Seattle sub

**Date:** Monday, November 16, 2020 11:36:37 AM

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Ticket #: 11407

Create D/T: 11/16/2020 10:58:58 AM Resource: Port of Woodland EL

Division: Northwest Subdivision: Seattle MilePost: 115.0 Line Segment: 52 City: Woodland County: Cowlitz State: WA D Code: 20K113

Train Symbol: GMCOKAH909 (BNSF6009) north

Trouble Code: Trespasser

Trouble Desc: 1055CT G MCOKAH9 09 travelling north on MT1 reported striking a trespasser at MP 115.0, Woodland, WA, not at a crossing. No crew injuries reported, Clark County sheriff reporting the trespasser was

fatally injured. Holding trains on all tracks, no route around.

1245CT MT2 released with no restrictions. Coroner's ETA 1315CT.

1325CT Investigation completed and MT1 released.

Train Soup: 115-0-16434-6700'

Train Direction: North

Lead Locos: BNSF 6009, UP 8025

DP Locos: BNSF 6505 Conductor Name: JG McLaren Engineer Name: TW Jones

Other Name:

On Duty Time and Date: 11/16/2020 6:00:00 AM Crew Origin/Destination: VW CEW

Name of Law Enforcement Agency on scene: Cowlitz County Sheriff FRA Post Accident Testing Required: No Crossing DOT: Not at a crossing Crossing Equipped With:

Haz Material: No

Haz Material Commodity: Amount Released: N/A Impact to Waterway: N/A Evacuations: N/A

Weather: 47\*, light rain, ENE winds 8 mph

State Report number: 20-4035 NRC Report Number: 129 2373

**Derailed Equipment:** 

\*\*\*Estimated Costs & Damages\*\*\*

Track: 0.00 USD Signal: 0.00 USD Other: 0.00 USD

Car Damages: 0.00 USD

Locomotive Damages: 0.00 USD

Contractor Expense: 0.00 USD

Estimated Lading Recovery Costs: 0.00 USD Prelim. Lading Loss Estimates: 0.00 USD Trailer/Container Damages:

0.00 USD

FRA Reportable Subtotal: 0.00 USD

Not FRA Reportable Subtotal: 0.00 USD

Estimated Grand Total: 0.00 USD

### NOTIFIED event(s):

11/16/20 11:52:27 NOTIFIED - NRC --> 129 2373

11/16/20 11:22:01 NOTIFIED - State --> WA: 20-4035

11/16/20 11:09:28 NOTIFIED - MDPR --> Remedy ticket

11/16/20 11:09:16 NOTIFIED - Mechanical Desk --> Remedy ticket

11/16/20 11:08:07 NOTIFIED - RFE --> Kevin Baker, ETA 1145CT

11/16/20 11:07:38 NOTIFIED - Trainmaster --> Vancouver TM/ voicemail

11/16/20 11:03:47 NOTIFIED - Passenger Service --> Dana Williams

11/16/20 11:02:46 NOTIFIED - NOC GDT --> John Abrahamson

11/16/20 11:02:32 NOTIFIED - ROC --> Daniella

# **WOODLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Case File Routing & PA Face Sheet** 

Public D	isclosure:	OK to Disclose	Do Not  Not Ask	ed
JUVENILE			<u></u>	
Orig	jinal ⊠	Follow-Up	In Custody	PA Log #
WPD Case # W2	20-759			
Data of Banart 11/19/20	20		Send Report to:	
Date of Report 11/18/20			☐ City Attorney	
Offense Fatality Collision	on		☐ Juvenile Court	
Officer C. Sciacca			☐ County PA	
Victim(s) Unidentified a	it this time		Other: BUSF	11-20-20
			Other:	
SUSPECT(s) & CH	IARGES (List	Full Name & DOB)		
	(2.01			
Suspect #1: None Charge(s): Non (If Juvenile - Parents Name, Addr				
Suspect #2:				
Charge(s): (If Juvenile - Parents Name, Addr	ess, Phone):			
Suspect #3:				
Charge(s): (If Juvenile - Parents Name, Addr	ess, Phone):			
RECORDS / DOCUMEN	TATION REQU	ESTED		
Data Entry Comple	ted:		(Clerk Initials & Date)	
CCDR / ADR: _			(Clerk Initials & Date)	
☐ NCIC III :		(Cle	erk Initials & Date)	
CASE CLEARANCE INFORMATION SuspendedCleared by ArrestCleared by ExceptionUnfoundedCleared by Sum. / Warr. RequestOther:				
APPROVAL & NOTES		A d D. //	Sat. J. Ke	eller mi.
Follow Up Assigned To: Approved By/Date: Sgt. J. Keller ***  NOTES: At the time of this report we are still waiting to hear back from the coroners office With the ID2672the victim.				
NOTES: At the time of thi	s report we are stil	il waiting to hear back fron	n tne coroners office with t	nejiuxotane victim.
THIS COPY WAS P		WOODLAND POLICE DEF	PARTMENT FOR THE OFFIC	CIAL USE OF
AND MAY NOT BE REVEAL	LED TO ANY OTHE	ER PERSONS OR AGENCI DDLAND POLICE DEPART	ES WITHOUT THE WRITTEI MENT.	N CONSENT OF THE
DATE:	E	BY:		

# WOODLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Report for Incident W20-759

Nature: Accident, Fatal Address: 22 S I-5 and RAILROAD TRACKS

Location: 6663 Woodland WA 98674

Offense Codes: ACOT

Received By: SCIACCA C How Received: 9 Agency: WDPD

Responding Officers: MURRAY B, SCIACCA C, KELLER J, KELLY JA, PATTISON K, Kerney D

Responsible Officer: SCIACCA C Disposition: \*\*/\*\*\*

When Reported: 09:06:48 11/16/20 Occurred Between: 09:06:48 11/16/20 and 13:00:25 11/16/20

Assigned To: Detail: Date Assigned: \*\*/\*\*/\*\*

Status: Status Date: \*\*/\*\*/\*\* Due Date: \*\*/\*\*/\*\*

Complainant: 72601

Last: BNSF First: Mid:

 DOB:
 \*\*/\*\*/\*\*
 Dr Lic:
 Address:
 115 INDUSTRIAL WAY

 Race:
 Sex:
 Phone:
 (360)578-2361
 City:
 Longview, WA 98632

**Offense Codes** 

Reported: Observed:

Additional Offense: ACOT Accident Other

Circumstances

LT42 Open Area Private

Responding Officers: Unit:

MURRAY B
SCIACCA C
KELLER J
KELLY JA
PATTISON K
Kerney D

Responsible Officer: SCIACCA C Agency: WDPD

Received By: SCIACCA C Last Radio Log: \*\*:\*\*:\*\* \*\*/\*\*/

How Received: 9 911 Line Clearance:

 When Reported:
 09:06:48 11/16/20
 Disposition:
 Date: \*\*/\*\*

 Judicial Status:
 Occurred between:
 09:06:48 11/16/20

 Misc Entry:
 and: 13:00:25 11/16/20

Modus Operandi:		Description :	Method :	
Involvemen	ts			
Date	Type	Description	Relationship	
11/17/20	Name	BNSF,	Complainant	
11/17/20	Name	MCLAREN, JEFFREY GORDAN	WITNESS	
11/17/20	Name	JONES, THERON WILLIAM	DRIVER	
11/17/20	Name	DIMMITT, MATTHEW R	WITNESS	

#### Narrative

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

NARRATIVE / SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT
Woodland Police Department
200 East Scott Ave., PO Box 9
Woodland, Washington 98674
(360) 225-6965

On 11/16/2020 at approximately 0900 hours I, Officer Christopher Sciacca and Officer Murray (FTO), was dispatched to a report of a train striking a person near I-5 mile post 22. Upon arrival, I observed an unidentified female on the ground up against the guard rail above the mile post 22 I-5 southbound on ramp. I also observed a purse near the train to the south of the female and a black boot between the purse and her. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) on seen confirmed that the female was deceased.

I contacted the conductor of the involved train, Jeff McLaren (BNSF# 7320518), who stated he had observed the collision from in the train. McLaren said that he and the train's Engineer, Theron Jones (BNSF# 7317084), had observed the female on the track previous to the collision. McLaren stated that they had observed the female from a distance walking up the middle of the northbound track. McLaren said Jones begun to blow the trains horn in an attempt to alert the female but she was not responsive. At this point, McLaren observed Jones engage the emergency brakes in an attempt to stop the train. I asked McLaren if at any point before the train struck the female if she had acknowledged its presence. McLaren stated it appeared that she attempted to dive out of the way to the west side of the tracks moments before impact.

I went to contact Jones who was still in the cab of the train. Upon approaching the train I observed what appeared to be pieces of human remains on the train's left hand steps. I contacted Jones who appeared distraught about what had happened. Ofc. Murray asked Jones if he could recount what had happened. Jones stated that he had observed something moving on the tracks but could not tell what it was at first. After traveling a short distance further Jones was able to confirm that it was a person walking up the middle of the northbound railroad tracks. Jones said that he blew the train's horn in order to try and alert the female but did not see her respond. Jones said he put on the trains emergency brakes and continued to blow the trains horn but did not see the female respond. When asked if he believed she was attempting to commit suicide Jones said no because it appeared she attempted to get off the tracks just before he could no longer see her. He estimated that his distance from her was approximately 20 yards when she tried to get off the tracks.

Jones stated that he had been traveling between 48 and 50 mph at the time of impact and said this was the typical speed for the train on this stretch of track. Jones elaborated that he was not in physical control of the train but instead had the computer controlling it. Ofc. Murray asked what the intended destination of the train was. Jones responded that he was going to Kalama, WA and further elaborated that his normal route is from Vancouver, WA to Kalama, WA.

The coroner's office was on scene and I made contact with them to see if they had been able to identify the female. They had not been able to locate any

identification on the female's body or purse but stated they would update us when they positively ID her. The coroner provided measurement that showed a distance of 56.5 feet from the purse to the body and the purse was located 7 feet to the west of the train. The collision is believed to have happened near where the purse was found. Measurements showed a distance of 14.2 feet from the black boot to the body. The coroner loaded the body and said they would contact later when ID was made. See the photos in the digital photo file.

BNSF Claims Representative Matt Dimmitt arrived on scene during this time and advised that he would be conducting BNSF's investigation into the accident. Ofc. John Davis of the BNSF police confirmed that the accident had happened at approximately mile marker 114.8. Ofc. Davis confirmed the train ID as GMCOKAH909. Dimmitt later emailed a photo captured from the train video showing the windshield wiper was stopped blocking the view of the north bound track. See image in digital photo file.

At the time of report the involved female has still not been identified.

Ofc. Chris Sciacca 6L14

11/18/2020

Approving Supervisor \_

# Name Involvements:

Complainant: 72601

Last: BNSF First: Mid:

 DOB:
 \*\*/\*\*/\*\*
 Dr Lic:
 Address:
 115 INDUSTRIAL WAY

 Race:
 Sex:
 Phone:
 (360)578-2361
 City:
 Longview, WA 98632

**DRIVER: 296811** 

Last: JONES First: THERON Mid: WILLIAM

DOB: 05/16/61 Dr Lic: Address: 5600 NE 300TH CT

Race: W Sex: M Phone: (360)921-5979 City: Camas, WA 98986

WITNESS: 296812

Last: DIMMITT First: MATTHEW Mid: R

DOB: \*\*/\*\* Dr Lic: Address: 1515 W 39TH ST BUILDING F

Race: Sex: Phone: (360)418-6203 City: Vancouver, WA 98660

**WITNESS: 296810** 

Last: MCLAREN First: JEFFREY Mid: GORDAN

DOB: 06/18/70 Dr Lic: Address: 886 N 47TH AVE

Race: W Sex: M Phone: (253)269-8877 City: Ridgefield, WA 98642

# **WOODLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Case File Routing & PA Face Sheet** 

	Public Disclosure:	OK to Disclose	」Do Not	ed
☐ JUVENIL	E			
	Original	Follow-Up	In Custody	PA Log #
WPD Case	e # W20-759			
			Send Report to:	
Date of Report			City Attorney	
Offense Fatal			☐ Juvenile Court	
Officer C. Sciacca			☐ County PA	
Victim(s) Arie	I E Dalton		Other:	
			Other:	
CHERECTIA	s) & CHARGES (Lis	et Full Nama & DOP)		
		st ruii Name & DOB)		
	lone e(s): None is Name, Address, Phone):			
Suspect #2:	-/-)-			
Charg (If Juvenile - Parent	s Name, Address, Phone):			
Suspect #3:				
Charg (If Juvenile - Parent	e(s): s Name, Address, Phone):			
RECORDS / D	OCUMENTATION REQ	UESTED		
Data Entry	Completed:		(Clerk Initials & Date)	
CCDR /	ADR:	(Clerk Initials & Date)		
☐ NCIC III	NCIC III: (Clerk Initials & Date)			
CASE CLEARANCE INFORMATION  □Suspended □Cleared by Arrest □Cleared by Exception □Unfounded □Cleared by Sum. / Warr. Request □Other:				
APPROVAL 8	NOTES igned To:	Approved By	/Date: Sgt. J. K	aller #6LC
	n identified as of 12/20/2020.			2 0 2020
THIS C	OPY WAS PROVIDED BY TH		EPARTMENT FOR THE OFFIC	IAL USE OF
AND MAY NOT BE REVEALED TO ANY OTHER PERSONS OR AGENCIES WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE WOODLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT.				
DA <sup>*</sup>	TE:	BY:		

# **Supplemental Narratives**

Supplemental Narratives Incident W20-759

## SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

Supplement number: 1 Name: SCIACCA C Date: 12:01:18 12/20/20

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NARRATIVE / SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT Woodland Police Department 200 East Scott Ave., PO Box 9 Woodland, Washington 98674

(360) 225-6965

On 12/20/2020 at approximately 1100 hours Ofc. Murray received a call from a Shaun Stuart requesting contact in relation to the fatal train collision that occurred on 11/16/2020. Stuart stated in the message that he believes he knows

the deceased, Ariel Dalton.

Ofc. Murray contacted Cowlitz County Coroner deputy Nate Guzman to verify the deceased had been identified. I, Ofc. Chris Sciacca returned to the Woodland PD office to meet with Guzman since I had handled the original report. Guzman confirmed that the deceased was identified through fingerprints as Ariel Elizabeth Dalton (DOB: 10/9/1990). Ofc. Murray provided Guzman with contact information for Shaun Stuart for follow up. Guzman said he would be in contact if he learned any new details while speaking with Stuart.

Ofc. Chris Sciacca 6L14

12/20/2020

Approving Supervisor

### **MEMO TO FILE**

**DATE**: April 13, 2021

FROM: Katie Hancock, Transportation Specialist

**SUBJECT: Apparent Cause of Death for UTC Pedestrian Accident 17082** 

Per a phone conversation on April 13, 2021, with Brett Dundas, Chief Deputy Coroner of the Cowlitz County Medical Examiner's Office at (530) 668-5292, the details of the pedestrian versus train fatality on Nov. 16, 2020, near BNSF Milepost 115.00 in Woodland, Cowlitz County, Washington, are as follows:

Cause of death: Multiple blunt force traumatic bodily injuries

Manner of death: Accident

## **Clark County TODAY.com**

Posted by <u>ClarkCountyToday.com</u> Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020

#### Unidentified female killed in collision with train near Woodland

An unidentified female was killed Monday when she was hit by a train on the tracks just south of Dike Access Road near Woodland.

Officials from the Woodland Police Department, Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office, BNSF Police Department and Clark-Cowlitz Fire and Rescue all responded at just after 9 a.m. Monday (Nov. 16) to a pedestrian versus train collision.



An unidentified female was killed Monday when she was hit by a train on the tracks just south of Dike Access Road near Woodland. Photo by Mike Schultz

The victim was pronounced dead at the scene and the Cowlitz County Coroner's Office took possession of the victim and is attempting to identify her. The Woodland Police Department was delayed in reporting the incident by a high volume of calls Monday, including a chase involving officers and a male subject in a motorhome.









