



# Rail Incident Investigation Report

Docket No: TR-		Report Date:	
Railroad Owning Track:		Railroad Operating on Track:	
FRA Investigation: Yes      No		Inspector:	
<b>I. Type of Accident</b>			
Public Crossing	Private Crossing	Trestle	Pedestrian at Crossing
Pedestrian Not at Crossing	Other (explain)		
<b>II. Time and Location of Accident</b>			
Date:		Time:	
USDOT Crossing No.:		UTC Crossing No.:	
Railroad Milepost:		GPS Identifier: Lat:	Lon:
Number of Tracks:		City:	County:
Road name, yard name, bridge:			
<b>III. Conditions Surrounding the Accident</b>			
Weather:	Clear to cloudy	Fog	Rain      Snow
Road Condition:	Dry	Wet	Snow      Ice
Visibility Due to Weather:	Daylight	Darkness	Unknown
Train Type: Freight	Passenger	Locomotive only	Cars only
Train Speed:			
Haz-Mat on Train: Yes	No	N/A	Remote Control: Yes      No      N/A
Type of Haz-Mat:			
<b>IV. Pedestrian, Driver, or Passenger Fatalities</b>			
<b>Does this section apply?</b>		<b>Yes      No</b>	
Number of Fatalities:		If a vehicle accident, number of passengers:	
Name:			
Driver:	Passenger	Pedestrian	Age:      Gender: Male      Female      non-binary
Pedestrian trying to get on/off train? Yes		No	Suicide: Yes      No      Undetermined
Alcohol: Yes	No	Undetermined	Information supplied by:
Drugs: Yes	No	Undetermined	Information supplied by:
Names of additional fatalities:			

Docket No: TR-

**V. Pedestrian, Driver, or Passenger Injuries**

**Does this section apply? Yes No**

Number of people injured:

If a vehicle 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 Alcohol: Yes No Undetermined

Names of additional injured persons:

**VI. Pedestrian Access (not at a Crossing)**

**Does this section 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

If yes, describe:

Deterrents at site, e.g. fence, signs, other? Yes No

If yes, describe:

Previous collisions at or near site? Yes No

If yes, describe:

**VII. Crossing History**

**Does this section apply? Yes No**

Prior accidents at this crossing? Yes No How many?

Dates of prior accidents:

Description of prior accidents (fatalities, injuries, property damage)

Last inspection date?

Defects? Yes No If yes, describe:

**VIII. Attachments**

Railroad incident report? Yes No Local law enforcement report? Yes No

Coroner/medical examiner report? Yes No Pictures? Yes No

Death Certificate? Yes No Copy of most current inventory? Yes No

Other (describe):

Docket No: TR-

**IX. Comments**

**Event Summary:**

**Site Description:**

**Inspector Recommendations:**

Docket No: TR-

Rail Safety Supervisor Comments/Sign Off:

Director of Transportation Safety Comments/Sign Off:



**From:** [State Emergency Operations Officer \(MIL\)](#)  
**To:** [WC Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management](#); [Reed, Rob \(ECY\)](#); [Hunter, Kathy \(UTC\)](#); [Kenneth W. Holgard](#); [Mark Daniels \(FRA\)](#); [Michael Pirato](#); [Randall Boyington](#); [Stacey Thompson \(Fed Railroad Association Reg 8\)](#); [Stacey Weller](#); [Steven Travers](#); [WUTC Rail Reporting \(UTC\)](#)  
**Subject:** State Incident #20-3317 Tran Vs Trespasser - Bellingham  
**Date:** Friday, September 25, 2020 7:22:52 AM

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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: Jose Granadanos / 817-593-6823 option 1

Time and Date Called in to the State EOC: 0645 / 09-25-20

Time and Date of the Event: 0635 / 09-25-20

Mile post and/or Address of Event: Bellingham WA / 97.1 Bellingham Subdivision. Did not occur at a crossing

Circumstances of the Incident: Train struck a trespasser. Train crew ok currently and trespasser status unknown

Number of Injuries and/or Fatalities: Unknown

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

Type and Amount of HAZMAT spilled: N/A

Any Additional Details That Will Assist in Identifying the Necessary Response:

Name and Phone Local POC: Jose Granadanos / 817-593-6823 option 1

Railroad Incident Number: N/A

State EOC Incident Number: 20-3317

**Samantha Williams**  
State Emergency Operations Officer  
Washington Emergency Management Division  
Building 20: MS: TA-20  
Camp Murray, WA 98430-5122  
[dutyofficer@mil.wa.gov](mailto:dutyofficer@mil.wa.gov)

## Hancock, Katie (UTC)

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**From:** HQS-SMB-NRC@uscg.mil  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 8, 2021 6:35 PM  
**To:** Hancock, Katie (UTC)  
**Subject:** NRC#1288234

External Email

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 # 1288234

### INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

\*Report taken by NRC on 25-SEP-20 at 10:31 ET.  
Incident Type: RAILROAD NON-RELEASE  
Incident Cause: TRESPASSER  
Affected Area:  
Incident occurred on 25-SEP-20 at 06:35 local incident time.  
Affected Medium: NON-RELEASE (N/A) / TRESPASSER

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### REPORTING PARTY

Name: JOSE GRANADOS OPT 1  
Organization: BNSF RAILROAD  
Address: 2600 LOU MENK DRIVE  
FORT WORTH, TX 76131  
Email Address:

PRIMARY Phone: (817)5936823  
Type of Organization: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

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### SUSPECTED RESPONSIBLE PARTY

Name: UNKNOWN  
Organization:  
Address:

Type of Organization: UNKNOWN

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### INCIDENT LOCATION

MP 97.1 County: WHATCOM  
City: BELLINGHAM State: WA

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### RELEASED MATERIAL(S)

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DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

CALLER IS REPORTING A FREIGHT TRAIN STRICKING A TRESPASSER RESULTING IN A FATALITY.

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SENSITIVE INFORMATION

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INCIDENT DETAILS

Grade Crossing: NO  
Location Subdivision: BELLINGHAM  
Railroad Milepost: 97.1  
Type of Vehicle Involved:  
Crossing Device Type:  
Device Operational: YES  
DOT Crossing 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: NO  
Passenger Train Delay Handling:  
---RAILROAD INFORMATION---  
Railroad Involved: BNSF RAILROAD  
Train Number: HLYDVBT125  
Train Type: FREIGHT Train Direction: N  
Train Speed: Track Speed:  
Locomotives: 3 Cars: 98 Derailed:  
Suspected DOT Regulation Non Compliance: UNKNOWN  
DERAILED CARS:  
Pos. Car number Type Cargo

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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

Road: YES UNKNOWN Major  
1 E/W Artery:NO

Waterway:NO

Track: YES SINGLE MAIN 1 N/S

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

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REMEDIAL ACTIONS

INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY  
Release Secured: UNKNOWN  
Release Rate:  
Estimated Release Duration:

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WEATHER

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ADDITIONAL AGENCIES NOTIFIED

Federal:  
State/Local:  
State/Local On Scene: LOCAL AUTHORITIES  
State Agency Number:

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NOTIFICATIONS BY NRC

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (GRASP)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (770)4887100  
CGIS D13 FIELD OFFICE (CGIS D13 COMMAND CENTER)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (206)2207141  
DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (SECRETARY OPERATION CENTER (SOC))  
25-SEP-20 10:39  
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (INTEL BRANCH/BLAINE SECTOR)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (360)4107222  
NATIONAL COORDINATING CTR FOR COMMS (NCC COMM-ISAC)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (703)2355626  
DHS CYBER & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY (OFC OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION RGN X)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (202)8215301  
OFFICE OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION (WA STATE PROTECTIVE SECURITY ADVISOR)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (202)8053379  
DOT CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER (MAIN OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (202)3661863  
FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMIN. (MAIN OFFICE (AUTO))  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (202)4930636  
FEMA REGION 10 (MAIN OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (425)4874704  
LUMMI INDIAN BUSINESS COUNCIL (NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (360)3127119  
NTL ENVMTL EMERG CENTRE CANADA (MAIN OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (514)2832333  
NATIONAL HWY TRANS SAFETY ADMIN (MAIN OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (202)4412924  
NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE COORD CTR (MAIN OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (202)2829201  
NOAA RPTS FOR WA (MAIN OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (206)5264911  
NTSB RAIL (MAIN OFFICE)



25-SEP-20 10:39 (202)3146293  
OREGON TITAN FUSION CENTER (FUSION COMMAND CENTER)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (877)6204702  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ADMIN (MAIN OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (801)9180995  
WA UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION (MAIN OFFICE)  
08-JUL-21 21:34 HANCOCK  
WA STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (MAIN OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (800)2585990  
TSA OFFICE OF SECURITY OPERATIONS (SURFACE OPS/PSAT - OREGON OFFICE)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (614)7328440  
TSA SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY (TWIC ENFORCEMENT)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (206)3875236  
USCG DISTRICT 13 (DISTRICT THIRTEEN (DRAT - DRMM))  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (206)2207221  
VOLPE CENTER (TRANSPORTATION HUMAN FACTORS)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (617)4942000  
WASHINGTON STATE FUSION CENTER (FUSION COMMAND CENTER)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (877)8439522  
WA UTILITIES & TRANSPORTATION COMM (RAILROAD SAFETY)  
25-SEP-20 10:39 (360)6641160

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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\*\*\* END INCIDENT REPORT #1288234 \*\*\*

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

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fnc.uscg.mil%2F&data=04%7C01%7Ckatie.hancock%40utc.wa.gov%7C81e9c15fcd934ee8a1c508d94279b6f0%7C11d0e217264e400a8ba057dcc127d72d%7C0%7C0%7C637613912813261015%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&data=NeVg%2BxckYoL03wc12qNp4YNV8BVkWYULw3wx3gf77L4%3D&reserved=0>

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**From:** [ServiceInterruptionDesk@BNSF.com](mailto:ServiceInterruptionDesk@BNSF.com)  
**To:** [CORPDLPublicAffairs@BNSF.com](mailto:CORPDLPublicAffairs@BNSF.com); [OPRDLSIDNRIncident@BNSF.com](mailto:OPRDLSIDNRIncident@BNSF.com); [Halstead, Lori \(UTC\)](#); [WUTC Rail Reporting \(UTC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [ServiceInterruptionDesk@BNSF.com](mailto:ServiceInterruptionDesk@BNSF.com)  
**Subject:** 09-25-20: H-LYDVBT1-25A - Trespasser on Bellingham Subdivision  
**Date:** Friday, September 25, 2020 10:24:53 AM

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Ticket #: 10894  
Create D/T: 9/25/2020 8:36:16 AM  
Resource: Bellingham  
Division: Northwest  
Subdivision: Bellingham  
MilePost: 97.141  
Line Segment: 50  
City: Bellingham  
County: Whatcom  
State: WA  
D Code: 209157  
Train Symbol: H-LYDVBT1-25A - BNSF 8090 - N

Trouble Code: Trespasser  
Trouble Desc: 0835 CT the H-LYDVBT1-25A reported striking a trespasser on the Bellingham Subdivision at MP 97.1 on single main track. Bellingham, WA. This did not occur at a road crossing. We currently do not have a route around.

Lead Locomotive BNSF 8090 is camera equipped. The train crew has not requested Critical Incident Relief. Trespasser status is currently unknown.

Division officers are responding with an ETA of 1015 CT.

Closeout:

1210 CT - All personnel in the clear and main track released to resume operations at normal speed.

Train crew requested Critical Incident Relief. Trespasser was fatally injured.

05 trains delayed, 01 relief crew.

Train Soup: 23-75-7149-7369  
Train Direction: North  
Lead Locos: BNSF 8090, BNSF 7746, BNSF 8577

Conductor Name: EP BUTLER  
Engineer Name: JC HODGINS  
On Duty Time and Date: 9/25/2020 4:15:00 AM  
Crew Origin/Destination: EVEVBC

Name of Law Enforcement Agency on scene: Bellingham PD  
FRA Post Accident Testing Required: No  
Crossing DOT: Not at a crossing

Haz Material: No  
Weather: 60\*, Light Rain Showers. Wind 20 N mph

State Report number: 20-3317  
NRC Report Number: 1288234

\*\*\*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

FRA Reportable Subtotal: 0.00 USD

Not FRA Reportable Subtotal: 0.00 USD

Estimated Grand Total: 0.00 USD

NOTIFIED event(s):

09/25/20 09:40:08 NOTIFIED - NRC --> NRC Report # 1288234  
09/25/20 09:31:15 NOTIFIED - NRC --> Mr. Jackson  
09/25/20 08:48:57 NOTIFIED - State --> Report # 20-3317  
09/25/20 08:45:00 NOTIFIED - State --> WA OES - Samantha  
09/25/20 08:44:00 NOTIFIED - NOC GDT --> Fitzgerald, Tyrone  
09/25/20 08:43:36 NOTIFIED - RFE --> Kitchens, Kyle A  
09/25/20 08:42:55 NOTIFIED - Trainmaster --> Lutz, Edward P  
09/25/20 08:40:50 NOTIFIED - MDPR --> Remedy notification  
09/25/20 08:40:47 NOTIFIED - Passenger Service --> Remedy notification  
09/25/20 08:40:40 NOTIFIED - Signal Desk --> Remedy notification  
09/25/20 08:40:33 NOTIFIED - MOW Desk --> Remedy notification  
09/25/20 08:40:28 NOTIFIED - Mechanical Desk --> Remedy notification  
09/25/20 08:38:07 NOTIFIED - ROC --> Escobar, Pedro



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 28, 2021

Ms. Katie Hancock  
Utilities and Transportation Commission  
[katie.hancock@utc.wa.gov](mailto:katie.hancock@utc.wa.gov)

**Re: FRA File No: FFRA-21-00230**

Dear Ms. Hancock:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), dated July 8, 2021 for the “FRA report of a rail vs. pedestrian fatality accident on Sept. 25, 2020, when a BNSF freight train struck a trespasser near railroad milepost 97.1 in Bellingham, WA (possibly near Central Ave.)”

After a thorough search of our files our agency was not able to locate records responsive to your request. Your request will be closed in this office.

You may appeal this decision to the Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20590. Your appeal must be submitted in writing within thirty days (30) of receipt of this letter.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the FRA’s FOI/PA Office.

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

If you have any questions regarding your FOIA request, you may contact FRA’s FOIA Office at: [FRAFOIA@dot.gov](mailto:FRAFOIA@dot.gov). You may also contact FRA’s FOIA Public Liaison, Ms. Regina Taylor-Santiago, at [FRAFOIALiaison@dot.gov](mailto:FRAFOIALiaison@dot.gov) for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request.

Thank you for your interest in the Federal Railroad Administration.

Sincerely,

*William R. Brown*

William R. Brown  
Government Information Specialist



Flo Simon, Chief of Police

505 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225

Telephone: (360) 778-8800

Fax: (360) 778-8701

<b>Case No.:</b>	20B55903
<b>Requested Date:</b>	May 22, 2021
<b>Requested By:</b>	HANCOCK, KATIE
<b>Agency:</b>	
<b>Processed By:</b>	CD (BP1004)
<b>Processed Date:</b>	5/22/2021 1:25:00 AM

Enclosed is a copy of the record you requested. If deletions have been made according to Washington state law, we have provided the statutory references supporting those deletions on the last page of this report.

All information pertaining to social security numbers and driver's licenses have been automatically deleted from any record requested by the public per RCW 42.56.240.1.

If you believe that information has been deleted without cause, please contact a records supervisor at (360) 778-8800.

Case Date  
Sep 25 2020  
6:39AM

**City of Bellingham Police Department**

*Longarm Case Report*

Print Date  
May 22, 2021

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**HEADER**

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**Primary**

*Author:* **MEDLEN, BILL**

*Appvd:* **189**

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Location: **699 ROEDER AVE**

Date Reported: **Sep 25 2020 6:39AM**

Press Summary: **I responded to a train vs pedestrian accident near ROEDER AV and CENTRAL AV.**

Case Date  
Sep 25 2020  
6:39AM

**City of Bellingham Police Department**

Print Date  
May 22, 2021

**Longarm Case Report**

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**ASSOCIATES**

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**Primary**      Report 1 of 8      *Author:* **MEDLEN, BILL**      *Rpt Date:* **Sep 25 2020 6:39AM**      *Appvd:* **189**

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**C4 OSTLUND, BRENT**      *DOB:*      *Age:*      *Sex:* M      *Race:* W  
  
    *SSN:* RCW 42.56.240.1      *Ht:*      *Wt:*  
*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1      *Lic. St:*      *Eyes:*      *Hair:*  
*Res Address:* , WA  
*Bus Address:* , BELLINGHAM, WA 98225  
*Res Phone:*      *Bus Phone:* (206) 625-6295  
*Cell Phone:*  
*AKAs:*  
*Features:*

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**C5 NIES, TYLER**      *DOB:*      *Age:*      *Sex:*      *Race:*  
  
    *SSN:* RCW 42.56.240.1      *Ht:*      *Wt:*  
*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1      *Lic. St:*      *Eyes:*      *Hair:*  
*Res Address:* , WA  
*Bus Address:* , WA  
*Res Phone:*      *Bus Phone:* (206) 794-8233  
*Cell Phone:*  
*AKAs:*  
*Features:*

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**C6 BEAM, GREG J**      *DOB:* Mar 2 1961      *Age:* 59      *Sex:* M      *Race:* W  
  
    *SSN:* RCW 42.56.240.1      *Ht:*      *Wt:*  
*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1      *Lic. St:*      *Eyes:*      *Hair:*  
*Res Address:* , WA  
*Bus Address:* 2900 BOND ST, Everett, WA WA  
*Res Phone:*      *Bus Phone:* (425) 304-6661  
*Cell Phone:*  
*AKAs:*  
*Features:*

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**W2 BUTLER, EDWARD**      *DOB:* Oct 5 1979      *Age:* 40      *Sex:* M      *Race:* W  
  
    *SSN:* RCW 42.56.240.1      *Ht:*      *Wt:*  
*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1      *Lic. St:*      *Eyes:*      *Hair:*  
*Res Address:* 475 HAROLD PL, CAMINO ISLAND, WA 98282  
*Bus Address:* , WA  
*Res Phone:* (425) 314-4534      *Bus Phone:*  
*Cell Phone:*  
*AKAs:*



Case Date  
Sep 25 2020  
6:39AM

**City of Bellingham Police Department**

***Longarm Case Report***

Print Date  
May 22, 2021

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*Features:*

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Case Date  
Sep 25 2020  
6:39AM

**City of Bellingham Police Department**

Print Date  
May 22, 2021

**Longarm Case Report**

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**NARRATIVE**

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**Primary**      Report 1 of 8      *Author:* **MEDLEN, BILL**      *Rpt Date:* **Sep 25 2020 6:39AM**      *Appvd:* **189**

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BNSF CASE NUMBER 2091003494

I was dispatched to a train vs pedestrian accident on ROEDER AV near CENTRAL AV. I was advised that BNSF had called 911 to report a train hitting a pedestrian who was on the tracks near this location. I responded along with several other patrol units in addition to the fire department.

It was still a bit dark upon arrival, and the train was stopped. The engines were facing north and stopped just past the C ST crossing. Officers and fire department personal began looking for a possible victim. One was eventually located under the train cars on the bridge that spans between CENTRAL AV and C ST. She was later identified as SHANNON SMITH (V1), and it was an obvious DOA.

Her body had been cut in half just below the rib cage. A purse was found nearby and a wallet contained her Washington State ID. This information was passed along to SGT JAMES for next of kin notification.

I worked along with INV ASPESSI for the remainder of the investigation.

I proceeded up to the engine to speak with the train engineer. He was identified as JACOB HODGINS (W1). The conductor was identified as EDWARD BUTLER (W2).

I spoke with JACOB HODGINS (W1) first.

He explained he works as an engineer for BNSF. He has held this position for the past 5 years. I asked about the train he was currently operating and he gave me the following information. This is train number HLYDVBT125. The lead engine is BNSF 8090. It has 3 engines attached, but only the lead engine was operating. He has 98 railway cars attached.

This train originated in EVERETT WA and is enroute to VANCOUVER BC.

JACOB HODGINS (W1) and EDWARD BUTLER (W2) both started their day on this train. JACOB HODGINS (W1) said he got a normal amount of sleep last night and does not have any illness. He said he is alert and feeling normal. He said he entered into Bellingham at 30 mph and was maintaining this speed per regulations.

He was north bound and approaching the CENTRAL AV crossing sounding his horn as required. He saw the crossing arms down and flashing as normal. He said he first saw SHANNON SMITH (V1) standing on the metal walkway grating that parallels the track. This is above the water of where Whatcom Creek dumps into Bellingham Bay. She was on the east side of the tracks and staring at the train. He said he began sounding the horn repeatedly to get her attention. He said he kept sounding the horn as the train closed distance, and this is when SHANNON SMITH (V1) stepped in front of the train without warning. When this occurred, he hit the emergency brakes, and came to his current stopped position.

After the train stopped, EDWARD BUTLER (W2) got out to check the welfare of SHANNON SMITH (V1), but quickly realized there was nothing he could do. They radioed their dispatch to advise what occurred, and this is who called our 911.

I confirmed this account with EDWARD BUTLER (W2). He also said he got a normal amount of sleep last night and feels alert and normal.

While doing this investigation, I spoke with BNSF employee GREG BEAM (C6). He

Case Date  
Sep 25 2020  
6:39AM

**City of Bellingham Police Department**  
**Longarm Case Report**

Print Date  
May 22, 2021

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advised me that the crossing arms at C ST were actually down and audibly sounding even before the train crossed the CENTRAL AV crossing. This means that SHANNON SMITH (V1) was on the bridge with audible and visual warnings on each side of her activated and sounding. Also during this time, I heard the lead engine sound it's horn confirming it is functioning as normal.

Working with INV ASPESSI, it was determined that Point of Impact between the train and SHANNON SMITH (V1) occurred approximately halfway across the bridge. This Point of Impact was determined to be where one of SHANNON SMITH (V1) shoes was located between the tracks. I believed this to be a valid location based on training I have received and accidents I have investigated as a Traffic Reconstructionist.

I inspected the front of the train, and did not see any obvious evidence of where exactly along the front made contact with her. However, blood splatter and body matter was found on the second axle back from the front, on the right side. Walking rearward from this location did not show any other obvious signs of contact.

In addition to her body being cut in half, one of her arms was cut off around the elbow area. Her head was intact but did show a large laceration on her forehead. Her shirt was on, but her lower torso was missing clothing. She was wearing women's underwear. Both shoes were missing from her feet.

Walking rearward from her body, several personal items were located. These were items such as hand sanitizer and small containers that were presumably in her purse.

While continuing this investigation, I met with BNSF Detective TYLER NIES (C5). He also introduced me to BRENT OSTLUND (C4), who works for BNSF Claims. BRENT OSTLUND (C4) advised he will be able to show video from the accident in the next few days after their investigation takes place.

TRAVIS PARKE (C3) with the medical examiners office arrived during this time. I assisted him in collecting and placing SHANNON SMITH (V1) into a body bag for further examination by GARY GOLDFOGEL (C1).

At approximately 1000 hrs, the train was able to be moved. Once moved, we walked the tracks again looking for any more evidence other that needed to be documented. None was located.

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Sep 25 2020  
6:39AM

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**NARRATIVE**

---

**Follow-Up**    Report 2 of 8    *Author:* DERUITER, MICHAEL    *Rpt Date:* Jan 3 2021 8:00AM    *Appvd:* 238

---

BPD received the amended autopsy report which included toxicology results.

It was submitted for scanning.

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**NARRATIVE**

---

**Follow-Up**    Report 3 of 8    *Author:* **HAURI, TRAVIS**    *Rpt Date:* **Nov 3 2020 10:59AM**    *Appvd:* **196**

---

On the above listed date and time I received a copy of the Autopsy report form Dr. Goldfogel. A full copy of this report was submitted for scanning[Deleted as per 68.50.105 & 20]

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**NARRATIVE**

---

**Follow-Up**    Report 4 of 8    *Author:* **GUTIERREZ, JON**    *Rpt Date:* **Nov 4 2020 8:00AM**    *Appvd:* **241**

---

On 11/04/20, I reviewed the details of this case and the determination from the  
WHATCOM COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE (R2) [Deleted as per 68.50.105 & 20]

Nothing further.

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**NARRATIVE**

---

**Follow-Up**    Report 5 of 8    *Author:* **BROWN, KENNETH**    *Rpt Date:* **Oct 1 2020 9:45AM**    *Appvd:* **241**

---

I picked up property from the medical examiner's office that belonged to SHANNON SMITH (V1). The property was delivered to GORDON SMITH (P1).

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**PROPERTY**

---

**Follow-Up**    Report 5 of 8    *Author:* **BROWN, KENNETH**    *Rpt Date:* **Oct 1 2020 9:45AM**    *Appvd:* **241**

---

**Found / Seized**

Article: **Other Property (Veh Trailers, All Other Property)**

*Serial #:*

*1st Color:*

*Recovered:*

*Impounded:* Oct 1 2020 10:08AM

*Brand:*

*Model:*

*Value:*

*Owner:* SMITH, SHANNON KAY

*License:*

*State:*

*Expires:*

*Description:* Bag of Personal Effects

*Features:* 3 keys, silver colored ring missing center stone, batteries, WA ID, pen, fragrance spray, key box, Hawaii keychain attachment, pink plastic cylinder.  
Delivered to NOK.

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**NARRATIVE**

---

**Follow-Up**    Report 6 of 8    *Author:* **JAMES, DENNIS**    *Rpt Date:* **Sep 25 2020 6:39AM**    *Appvd:* **255**

---

Next of Kin notification made.

On 9/25/20 at about 0639 Officers were dispatched to a train vs pedestrian incident at the above location. SHANNON SMITH (V1) was preliminarily identified as the victim due to personnel information found in the purse found and a St. Joseph's hospital identification bracelet. See primary investigation information from TO Medlen, and CSI Aspesi.

I contacted the apartment management where SHANNON SMITH (V1) lived. They advised GORDON SMITH (P1) was listed as an emergency contact. I requested the assistance of a support officer and went to GORDON SMITH (P1)'s residence with support officer TAVV SHAVER (C2). We notified GORDON SMITH (P1) of the death.

GORDON SMITH (P1) said he had thought SHANNON SMITH (V1) was in the hospital for her mental health issues. He said he had dropped her off earlier in the week and had talked to her on the 24th and she was still in the hospital.

TAVV SHAVER (C2) stayed with GORDON SMITH (P1) and his wife for support and assistance.

Nothing further at this time.



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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**NARRATIVE**

---

**Follow-Up** Report 7 of 8 *Author:* **BALONICK, AMY** *Rpt Date:* **Sep 25 2020 6:45AM** *Appvd:* **189**

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On 0639 hrs I was on uniformed patrol in a marked police vehicle and was dispatched to a call of train versus pedestrian at 699 ROEDER AVE. Dispatch indicated that this call was made by PEDRO ESCOBAR (R1). OFC MEDLEN was at the scene as primary and CSI OFC L.ASPESSI was there to take photos of the scene. BELLINGHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT was also on scene. BELLINGHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT reference case is BF20-13331.

I arrived on scene at 0645 hrs. OFC MEDLEN asked me to make contact with the train's engineer. I met with JACOB HODGINS (W1) at the front of the train. JACOB HODGINS (W1) indicated that he was the engineer of the 8090/ES44C4 train that was traveling northbound from Everett, WA to Vancouver, Canada. He reported that as he was passing the CENTRAL AVE. bridge he began to blow the train whistle for the upcoming railroad crossing at C ST. JACOB HODGINS (W1) noted that after passing the CENTRAL AVE. bridge that he saw the victim on the walkway bridge on the eastside of the train tracks. JACOB HODGINS (W1) stated the victim looked at him and he began to honk the horn loudly. He reported the victim then jumped in front of the train. JACOB HODGINS (W1) reported that he pulled the emergency brake right after the train made contact with the victim. JACOB HODGINS (W1) indicated that train was traveling at 30 MPH when it made contact with the victim. JACOB HODGINS (W1) reported that he has been an engineer for five years. He also reported he had slept for five hours the previous night, which is reportedly normal for him, and that this travel from Everett, WA to Vancouver, Canada was his first travel of the day. JACOB HODGINS (W1) reported his train sign is HLYDVBT125 and that the train he was operating at the time of the accident has three engines and 98 cars.

On scene I observed the victim's body laying under the train near the walkway bridge on the eastside of the tracks. The victim appeared to be wearing a purple top and underwear; however, no pants or shoes were seen. I saw a black purse several feet south of the body on the outside of the tracks on the eastside. At the front of the train I observed blood and possible body matter on the second and third axle.

OFC MEDLEN will make contact with BNSF to retrieve video footage of the incident.

SERGEANT D.JAMES made a next of kin notification.

Nothing further.

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**ASSOCIATES**

---

**Follow-Up** Report 8 of 8 *Author:* **ASPESSI, LISA** *Rpt Date:* **Sep 25 2020 6:45AM** *Appvd:* **189**

---

**C1 GOLDFOGEL, GARY ALAN** *DOB:* Nov 12 1958 *Age:* 61 *Sex:* M *Race:* W  
*SSN:* RCW 42.56.240.1 *Ht:* 508 *Wt:* 175  
*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1 *Lic. St:* WA *Eyes:* BLU *Hair:* Brown  
*Res Address:* 1309 8 ST, BELLINGHAM, WA 98225  
*Bus Address:* 1500 N STATE ST 200, BELLINGHAM, WA 98225  
*Res Phone:* (360) 734-2244 *Bus Phone:* (360) 738-4557  
*Cell Phone:*  
*AKAs:*  
*Features:*

---

**C3 PARKE, TRAVIS KAY** *DOB:* Jan 2 1992 *Age:* 28 *Sex:* M *Race:* W  
*SSN:* RCW 42.56.240.1 *Ht:* 510 *Wt:* 175  
*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1 *Lic. St:* WA *Eyes:* HAZ *Hair:*  
*Res Address:* 5858 SEMIAHMOO RD, BLAINE, WA 98230  
*Bus Address:* 4816 OUTRIGGER LOOP, BLAINE, WA 98230  
*Res Phone:* *Bus Phone:* (360) 393-9964  
*Cell Phone:*  
*AKAs:*  
*Features:*

---

**R2 WHATCOM COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE,** *DOB:* *Age:* *Sex:* *Race:*  
*SSN:* RCW 42.56.240.1 *Ht:* *Wt:*  
*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1 *Lic. St:* *Eyes:* *Hair:*  
*Res Address:* , WA  
*Bus Address:* 1500 N STATE ST, BELLINGHAM, WA 98225  
*Res Phone:* *Bus Phone:* (360) 738-4557  
*Cell Phone:*  
*AKAs:* WHATCOM CO MED EXAM; WHATCOM CO MEDICAL EXAMINER; MEDICAL EXAMINER;  
CORONER  
*Features:*

---

**R3 ST JOSEPH HOSPITAL,** *DOB:* *Age:* *Sex:* *Race:*  
*SSN:* RCW 42.56.240.1 *Ht:* *Wt:*  
*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1 *Lic. St:* *Eyes:* *Hair:*  
*Res Address:*  
*Bus Address:* 2901 SQUALICUM PK, BELLINGHAM, WA 98225  
*Res Phone:* (360) 333-6436 *Bus Phone:* (360) 734-5400  
*Cell Phone:*  
*AKAs:* ST JOSEPHS HOSPITAL,; ST JOSEPH MEDICAL RECORDS

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*Features:*

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**R4 BNSF RAILWAY POLICE, 2601 20 AV W**      *DOB:*      *Age:*      *Sex:*      *Race:*

SSN: RCW 42.56.240.1

*Ht:*

*Wt:*

*Drivers Lic.:* RCW 42.56.240.1

*Lic. St:*

*Eyes:*

*Hair:*

*Res Address:* 1019 BILLY FRANK JR ST 4, BELLINGHAM, WA 98225

*Bus Address:*

*Res Phone:* (253) 350-5573

*Bus Phone:* (360) 418-6257

*Cell Phone:*

*AKAs:*

*Features:*

---

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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**NARRATIVE**

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**Follow-Up** Report 8 of 8 **Author: ASPESSI, LISA** **Rpt Date: Sep 25 2020 6:45AM** **Appvd: 189**

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On 9/25/20, I responded to the Roeder Ave. bridge between Central Ave. and C Street for the report of a pedestrian struck by a train. Both the railway crossing at Central Ave. and C Street were activated, blinking and making an audible signal noise upon arrival. The train had headlights illuminated on the engine car and the train whistle was operational. The bridge where SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S body was located had clearly marked NO TRESPASSING signs posted on either end of the metal walkway.

Traffic Officer Medlen, Ofc. Brewer and I searched the area for the body. Fire department personnel located the victim, later identified by her WA stated driver's license as SHANNON SMITH (V1), approximately 20 feet from the west end of the bridge. SHANNON SMITH (V1) had been cut in half by the train, with her upper torso and head lying on the north side of the tracks and the lower portion of the body lying between the tracks underneath the railcar. SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S right arm was severed and visible under the train, east of her torso. SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S lower torso was clothed only in underwear. SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S black sweat pants and white tube socks were later underneath the train wheels and appeared to have been ripped off after she was impacted. SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S upper torso was clothed in a purple sweatshirt.

Approximately halfway between C Street and Central Ave along the tracks, a black purse was recovered that contained SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S identification, medication, SSN card, insurance cards, some bills and miscellaneous personal effects. A few feet further east, two white tennis shoes were located underneath the train. No other debris or personal items were located beyond the white tennis shoes. It was believed that the tennis shoe location was likely the point of impact with the train. The location was marked with orange spray paint, along with the location of SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S body.

Officer Brewer advised he observed a hospital wrist band bearing SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S name near the black purse. The wrist band was not recovered and believed to have been blown off the railroad bridge into the water below. On SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S body, a green wrist band was observed on her still intact left arm bearing the date "9/24/20." Sgt. James confirmed that SHANNON SMITH (V1) had been admitted to ST JOSEPH HOSPITAL (R3) on 9/24/20 due to [Deleted as per 70.02.005.4 & 78] .

GARY GOLDFOGEL (C1) with the WHATCOM COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE (R2) was contacted. GARY GOLDFOGEL (C1) advised he would take jurisdiction and have TRAVIS PARKE (C3) respond to collect the body. GARY GOLDFOGEL (C1) advised that he needed a copy of the train surveillance footage urgently. BNSF RAILWAY POLICE (R4) and insurance investigators advised they would be in contact with GARY GOLDFOGEL (C1) and arrange for him to view the footage. Traffic Ofc. Medlen would also be following up with BNSF RAILWAY POLICE (R4) to obtain a copy of the surveillance footage.

An examination of the engine car showed that SHANNON SMITH (V1) may have walked between the first two wheels of the train when she was struck, rather than striking it head-on. No blood or debris were observed on the front of the train, however, there were a few points on the passenger side of the engine car that appeared to be potential impact points. Photos were taken showing the bloody areas on the outside of the train.

Once the train was moved down the tracks, a secondary search was completed of the railroad tracks along the bridge. No items were found beyond the location of the white tennis shoe. A set of keys and a key chain were located on the tracks, along

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with a pair of torn black sweat pants and two white socks. The shoes, keys, torn black sweat pants and white socks were collected by TRAVIS PARKE (C3) and added to the body bag sent to the WHATCOM COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE (R2). TRAVIS PARKE (C3) was also given SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S WA state identification card.

I transported SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S purse to the police station to photograph and impound the contents. Inside SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S purse, I located a list of medications, dosage and frequency taken. Photographs of the list were taken using my department issued NIKON D7500 digital camera. A pill organizer was also located inside the purse. Here is a list of medication and pills located inside SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S purse:

[Deleted as per 70.02.005.4 & 78]

Pills located:

[Deleted as per 70.02.005.4 & 78]

All loose pills were packaged together to be destroyed after photographs were taken.

Also located in the purse were two lighters, which were photographed then discarded due to flammability. A zippo lighter that was collected at the scene near the purse was engraved with initials "GMS". The zippo lighter did not appear to be functional. The zippo lighter was kept with the purse and impounded for safe keeping.

It is unknown if SHANNON SMITH (V1) was a smoker, consumed alcohol or used any recreational drugs.

A check of Longarm contacts with SHANNON SMITH (V1) showed that she was spoken to on 9/22/2020 regarding concerns that someone was poisoning her water and messing with her cable and internet. Inside SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S purse were a recent cable bill and power bill. There were also four mental health related contacts in 2015 which mentioned [Deleted as per 70.02.005.4 & 78] , paranoid thoughts and suicidal thoughts about jumping from the I-5 overpass.

Besides the mental health contacts, SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S personal health concerns are unknown. None of the medications located inside her purse were in a pill bottle. It is unknown who was SHANNON SMITH (V1)'S primary care physician.

Nothing further.



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**20B55903 SUICIDE**

**PROPERTY**

---

**Follow-Up**      Report 8 of 8      *Author:* **ASPESSI, LISA**      *Rpt Date:* **Sep 25 2020 6:45AM**      *Appvd:* **189**

---

**Found / Seized**

Article: **Purses/Handbags/Wallets**

*Serial #:*

*1st Color:* Black

*Recovered:*

*Impounded:* Sep 25 2020 12:15PM

*Brand:*

*Model:*

*Value:*

*Owner:* SMITH, SHANNON KAY

*License:*

*State:*

*Expires:*

*Description:* Black purse with misc contents

*Features:*

---

**Found / Seized**

Article: **Drugs/Narcotics**

*Serial #:*

*1st Color:*

*Recovered:*

*Impounded:* Sep 25 2020 12:17PM

*Brand:*

*Model:*

*Value:*

*Owner:* SMITH, SHANNON KAY

*License:*

*State:*

*Expires:*

*Description:* 22 misc prescription pills

*Features:*

---

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# Property Release Form

## Bellingham Police Department

Case Number	Barcode #	Description	Serial #
20B55903	181716	PUASE & CONTENTS	—

I have received the above items from the Bellingham Police Department.

Signed:  Date: 9/30/2020

Printed Name: Gordon M. Smith Date of Birth: 09-06-1942  
1211 KENoyer St.  
360-733-5511

Officer Releasing: SGT. Ken Brown Badge # 155





# Property Release Form

## Bellingham Police Department

Case Number	Barcode #	Description	Serial #
20B55903	181807	BAG of PERSONAL PROPERTY	—

I have received the above items from the Bellingham Police Department.

Signed: *Gordon M. Smith* Date: 10-1-2020

Printed Name: GORDON M. SMITH Date of Birth: 09-06-1942

Officer Releasing: SGT. KEN BROWN Badge # 155

*[Signature]*

20B55903

Whatcom County Medical Examiner's Office  
1500 N. State Street  
Bellingham, WA, 98225  
360-738-4557 Phone  
360-734-0467 Fax

Chain of Evidence Custody Record

Evidence collected from: SMITH, SHANNON K WCME Case #: A099-2020

Law enforcement: Bihar PD Police case #: 200-203

ID Source: WA ID ID# [REDACTED]

Collected at: Autopsy Date: 09/25/2020 Time: 12:15

List specimens by number and describe:

- 1) 1 red top tube - vitreous
- 2) 1 red top tube - urine
- 3) 1 WA ID card
- 4) hand sanitizer
- 5) Pink and black plastic item
- 6) broken <sup>electronic</sup> pager (?) with 2 batteries
- 7) 1 pen
- 8) car keys
- 9) 1 white metal ring with central stone - missing.

Evidence collected, labeled and secured by: Tracy Kok

Person releasing custody of specimens (signature)	Person / business receiving custody of specimens (signature for person)	Date	Time	Specimen received (by no.)
<u>Tracy Kok</u>	<u>WSTL</u>	<u>09/25/2020</u>	<u>9:57</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Tracy Kok</u>	<u>BPD 2315</u>	<u>10/01/2020</u>	<u>0935</u>	<u>3-9</u>

---

The following case documents have been redacted:

Document Date	Document Type	RCWcode	Exemption Code
1/1/2021	Forensic	68.50.105	20
9/25/2020	Forensic	68.50.105	20

Case  
Date

**City of Bellingham Police Department**

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2020-39-25 06:39

**CAD Report**

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---

Incident History for: BP20000055903

Case Number: **20B55903**

*Entered:* **9/25/2020 6:40:00 AM**

*Incident Op ID:* **WC927**

*Dispatched:* **9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM**

*Enroute:* **9/25/2020 9:59:00 AM**

*Dispatch Op ID:* **WC945**

*On Scene:* **9/25/2020 11:25:00 AM**

*Final Type:*

*Closed:* **9/25/2020 2:43:00 PM**

*Officer:* **BP209**

*Initial Type:* **ACCTRC**

*Disposition:* **R**

*Police Block:* **BP2920**

*Location:* **ROEDER AVE**

*Name:* **PEDRO ESCOBAR**

*Address:* **BNSF OPERATIONS**

*Phone:* **(800) 832-5452**

Case  
Date

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Incident History for: BP20000055903

Case Number: 20B55903

Time	Operator	Type	Unit	Text
9/25/2020 6:40:00 AM	WC927	ENTRY		TRAIN THINKS THEY STRUCK PEDESTRIAN. IT WAS A NB TRAIN, TRAIN IS STOPPED
9/25/2020 6:40:00 AM	WC927	CHANGE		Related Call:FIRE:BF20-13331
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC927	CHANGE		Comp.Name:CHANGED TO:ESCOBAR PEDRO
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC927	CHANGE		Comp.adress:WA TO: BNSF OPERATIONS WA
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC927	CHANGE		Comp.phone:CHANGED TO:T 800 832-5452
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC969	DISP	1P56	#BP209 MEDLEN, BILL
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC969	DISPER	1P56	#BP209 MEDLEN, BILL
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC969	DISP	1P3	#BP232 BREWER, CRAIG
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC969	DISPER	1P2	#BP312 BALONICK, AMY #BP244 WUBBEN, DALE
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC969	DISPER	1P3	#BP232 BREWER, CRAIG
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC969	DISP	1P2	#BP312 BALONICK, AMY #BP244 WUBBEN, DALE
9/25/2020 6:41:00 AM	WC927	SUPP		CREW IS ON GROUND WALKING TRACKS
9/25/2020 6:45:00 AM	WC969	DISP	1P34	#BP290 ASPESSI, LISA
9/25/2020 6:45:00 AM	WC969	DISPER	1P34	#BP290 ASPESSI, LISA
9/25/2020 6:45:00 AM	WC969	ONSCN	1P3	#BP232 BREWER, CRAIG
9/25/2020 6:46:00 AM	WC969	ONSCN	1P56	#BP209 MEDLEN, BILL
9/25/2020 6:47:00 AM	WC969	ONSCN	1P34	#BP290 ASPESSI, LISA
9/25/2020 6:48:00 AM	WC969	ONSCN	1P2	#BP312 BALONICK, AMY #BP244 WUBBEN, DALE
9/25/2020 6:49:00 AM	WC969	SUPP		COME DOWN BY JALAPENOS AND WORK EB
9/25/2020 6:57:00 AM	WC712	SUPP		BF13331:E1 W SIDE OF BRIDGE AT WATER WAY E1 HAS LOCATED THE BODY
9/25/2020 7:33:00 AM	BP189	DISP	2P22	#BP189 JAMES, DENNIS
9/25/2020 7:33:00 AM	BP189	DISPER	2P22	#BP189 JAMES, DENNIS
9/25/2020 7:36:00 AM	BP189	DISPER	2P22	#BP189 JAMES, DENNIS
9/25/2020 7:36:00 AM	BP189	ONSCN	2P22	#BP189 JAMES, DENNIS
9/25/2020 7:37:00 AM	WC969	DISPER	1P2	#BP312 BALONICK, AMY #BP244 WUBBEN, DALE
9/25/2020 7:41:00 AM	WC969	ONSCN	1P2	#BP312 BALONICK, AMY #BP244 WUBBEN, DALE



Case  
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Incident History for: BP20000055903

Case Number: **20B55903**

9/25/2020 7:53:00 AM	WC969	SUPP		1P34 !SMITH.SHANNON.K.050971
9/25/2020 8:22:00 AM	WC969	DISPER	2P22	#BP189 JAMES, DENNIS
9/25/2020 8:33:00 AM	BP232	DISPER	1P3	#BP232 BREWER, CRAIG
9/25/2020 8:35:00 AM	BP232	ONSCN E	1P3	#BP232 BREWER, CRAIG
9/25/2020 8:53:00 AM	BP312	CLEAR	1P2	#BP312 BALONICK, AMY #BP244 WUBBEN, DALE
9/25/2020 8:56:00 AM	BP189	ONSCN E	2P22	#BP189 JAMES, DENNIS
9/25/2020 8:56:00 AM	BP189	CLEAR	2P22	#BP189 JAMES, DENNIS
9/25/2020 9:49:00 AM	BP232	CLEAR	1P3	#BP232 BREWER, CRAIG
9/25/2020 9:59:00 AM	WC927	DISPER	1P56	#BP209 MEDLEN, BILL
9/25/2020 10:08:00 AM	WC927	DISPER	1P34	#BP290 ASPESSI, LISA
9/25/2020 10:22:00 AM	BP290	ONSCN E	1P34	#BP290 ASPESSI, LISA
9/25/2020 11:25:00 AM	WC927	ONSCN E	1P56	#BP209 MEDLEN, BILL
9/25/2020 1:04:00 PM	WC927	CLEAR	1P34	#BP290 ASPESSI, LISA
9/25/2020 2:43:00 PM	WC945	CHANG E		Call was CLEARED:
9/25/2020 2:43:00 PM	WC945	CHANG E		Reporting Officer:CHANGED TO:BPBP209
9/25/2020 2:43:00 PM	WC945	CHANG E		Cleared by:CHANGED TO:R
9/25/2020 2:43:00 PM	WC945	CLEAR	1P56	#BP209 MEDLEN, BILL

Case  
Date

## City of Bellingham Police Department

Print Date

2020-39-25 06:39

### *Statutory and Exemption References*

May 22, 2021

**20B55903**

Page: 1 of 1

### **Statutory References**

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Descripton</b>
42.56.230.7 & 31	<p>Any record used to prove personal info</p> <p>18 USC sec 123 § 2721, 18 USC sec 123 § 2725 (3) The withheld record is from the Department of Licensing database. Highly restricted personal information about any individual obtained by the department in connection with a driver/motor vehicle record, without the express consent of the person to whom such information applies shall not be disclosed..."highly restricted personal information" means an individual's photograph or image, social security number, driver identification number, name, address (excluding zip code), phone number, medical/disability information...</p>
68.50.105 & 20	<p>Autopsies Protected</p> <p>Reports and records of autopsies or post mortems shall be confidential.</p>
70.02.005.4 & 78	<p>Medical Records Held By Other Agencies Cannot Be Disclosed</p> <p>Persons other than health care providers obtain, use, and disclose health record information in many different contexts and for many different purposes. It is the public policy of this state that a patient's interest in the proper use and disclosure of the patient's health care information survives even when the information is held by persons other than health care providers.</p>

Accident Date: 09/25/2020

## **Bellingham Herald One killed after collision with a freight train in Bellingham Friday morning**

**BY MACK ERVIN III**

SEPTEMBER 26, 2020 05:25 PM

One person was killed after being struck by a mixed-freight train on a railway in Bellingham Friday morning, Sept. 25, according to BNSF Railway.

The victim, whose name and gender was not released, was not in a railway crossing when struck by the train, BNSF Railway spokeswoman Courtney Wallace told The Bellingham Herald. Additional details regarding the collision were not available Saturday, Sept. 26. The track was shut down for a few hours as an investigation was conducted but has since re-opened.



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 28, 2021

Ms. Katie Hancock  
Utilities and Transportation Commission  
[katie.hancock@utc.wa.gov](mailto:katie.hancock@utc.wa.gov)

**Re: FRA File No: FFRA-21-00230**

Dear Ms. Hancock:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), dated July 8, 2021 for the “FRA report of a rail vs. pedestrian fatality accident on Sept. 25, 2020, when a BNSF freight train struck a trespasser near railroad milepost 97.1 in Bellingham, WA (possibly near Central Ave.)”

After a thorough search of our files our agency was not able to locate records responsive to your request. Your request will be closed in this office.

You may appeal this decision to the Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20590. Your appeal must be submitted in writing within thirty days (30) of receipt of this letter.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the FRA’s FOI/PA Office.

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

If you have any questions regarding your FOIA request, you may contact FRA’s FOIA Office at: [FRAFOIA@dot.gov](mailto:FRAFOIA@dot.gov). You may also contact FRA’s FOIA Public Liaison, Ms. Regina Taylor-Santiago, at [FRAFOIALiaison@dot.gov](mailto:FRAFOIALiaison@dot.gov) for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request.

Thank you for your interest in the Federal Railroad Administration.

Sincerely,

*William R. Brown*

William R. Brown  
Government Information Specialist