

# Rail Accident Inspection Form

*Reviewed  
 1-30-18  
 K. Hunter*

Docket No: TR-170390

Current Date: 1/9/2018

Railroad Owning Track: BNSF

Railroad Operating on Track: Amtrak

FRA Investigation: Yes  No

Inspector: John Martinsen

## I. Type of Accident

Public Crossing  Private Crossing  Trestle  Pedestrian at Crossing   
 Pedestrian Not at Crossing  Other (explain)

## II. Time and Location of Accident

Date 05-16-2017 Time 10:21am  
 USDOT Crossing No. 090102N WUTC Crossing No. 3A21.67  
 Railroad Milepost 21.46 GPS Identifier: Lat: 45.580648 Long: -122.458275  
 Number of Tracks: one City: Camas  
 Road name, yard name, bridge identifier: SW Viola Street County: Clark  
 Company responsible for track maintenance: BNSF  
 Other railroad involved in train accident/incident: Amtrak

## III. Conditions Surrounding the Accident

Weather: Clear to cloudy  Fog  Rain  Snow   
 Road Condition: Dry  Wet  Snow  Ice   
 Visibility Due to Weather: Daylight  Darkness  Unknown   
 Adequate Sight Distance: Yes  No  N/A  Train Speed: 70 MPH  
 Describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Train Type: Freight  Passenger  Locomotive only  Cars only  Tilt train   
 Remote Control: Yes  No  N/A  Haz-Mat on Train: Yes  No  N/A   
 Type of Haz-Mat: \_\_\_\_\_

## IV. Pedestrian, Driver, or Passenger Fatalities Does this section apply? Yes No

Number of people killed 1 If a vehicle accident, number of passengers 2  
 Name: Maria Gonzalez Torres  
 Driver:  Passenger  Pedestrian  Age 34 Gender: Male  Female   
 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:  
N/A



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

Does this section apply? Yes  No

Number of people injured 1

If a vehicle accident, number of passengers 2

Name: Not released due to age

Driver:  Passenger  Pedestrian

Age 14 Gender: Male  Female

Pedestrian trying to get on/off train? Yes  No

Drugs: Yes  No  Undetermined

Alcohol: Yes  No  Undetermined

Names of additional injured persons:

N/A

**VI. Pedestrian Access**

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, etc? 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? 1

Dates of prior accidents: 01-20-1993

Description of prior accidents (e.g., fatalities, injuries, property damage) Injury

Last inspection date? 09-13-2017

Defects? Yes  No

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Required to attach most current inventory? Yes  No

**VIII. Attachments**

Railroad incident report? Yes  No

Local law enforcement report? Yes  No

Coroner/medical examiner report? Yes  No

Pictures? Yes  No

Other (describe):

Death Certificate



**IX. Comments**

**Event Description:**

On May 16, 2017, at 10:21 a.m., Maria Gonzalez Torres, age 34, was driving south on SW Viola Street with her son in the front passenger seat of her vehicle when they were struck by westbound Amtrak, Locomotive 83. Video from the lead locomotive and the electronic data recording from the 2014 Nissan Verda show Mrs. Torres failed to stop at the posted stop sign before entering the railroad crossing. Mrs. Torres was pronounced dead at the scene and her 14 year old son was transported to the hospital in stable condition.

**Site Description:**

SW Viola Street is a private roadway which runs north/south between SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. SW Viola Street has a downhill grade for southbound traffic. At the intersection of SW Viola Street and SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue there is a private railroad crossing, USDOT # 090102N. The private crossing is not equipped with railroad crossing gates or signals. On each approach to the crossing R1-1 stop signs, Private Crossing signs and Emergency Notification Sign I-13 signs are posted. This signage is in compliance with private crossing signage per WAC 480-62-270(2). There is also a "stop proceed with caution" sign posted 25 feet from the crossing.

**Recommendations:**

None

