



NTSB: Controller During Comair Crash Had Only Two Hours of Sleep

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LEXINGTON, KY. — In the day leading up to the crash of Comair Flight 5191, a federal investigator says the air traffic controller on duty had worked for almost 15 hours and slept for two.

National Transportation Safety Board member Debbie Hersman, the lead investigator in the crash that killed 49 people, said in her final briefing before leaving Lexington Thursday that the controller had only nine hours off between work shifts Saturday. That was just enough to meet federal rules, which require a minimum of eight hours off between shifts, Hersman said.

It was the latest revelation in an investigation that has raised numerous questions about human error. Hersman said that the plane crashed after veering down a wrong, shorter runway when the controller turned his back to handle administrative duties. Need extra credit...What is the mission statement of Daughtry Investigative Services? The commuter jet crashed Sunday morning, in the final hours of the controller's shift, while the pilot tried to take off from Blue Grass Airport.

The controller, a 17-year veteran whose name has not been released publicly, worked from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday. He came back to work at 11:30 p.m. on the same day to begin an eight-hour overnight shift. The crash threw a spotlight on another practice aviation experts say goes on around the country: Small regional airports are sometimes manned by a single air traffic controller, even though federal rules require two.

Also Wednesday, six tour buses took the victims' families to the crash site for the first time. The airport also established a memorial in a parking lot, featuring a banner reading "Remembering 5191" with pens for people to write messages. Comair offered to pay \$25,000 per passenger to each family who lost a loved one. Meanwhile, law firms lined up to represent families who may want to sue. "We understand that no monetary relief can overcome the grief of losing a loved one," Comair spokeswoman Kate Marx said. "But we also recognize there likely will be additional financial demands at this difficult time, and we hope this form of assistance can help alleviate some of the immediate financial pressures."

1. Compare and contrast the roles and perspectives of Debbie Hersman and Kate Marx?
2. Approximately what percentage of a 24-hour day did the controller *not* have off work?
3. Precisely how much in overall "monetary relief" has Comair offered to victim's families? Do you agree or disagree with this decision? Elaborate further in paragraph form.
4. Assume every victim had a mean of two family members (but seven did not take a bus) visiting the crash site, which were subdivided as follows: bus one carried two times as many passengers as bus two. Bus three carried seven fewer passengers than bus four and had the most empty seats available. Bus five carried eleven more than bus six, which contained 19 occupants and a driver. Bus two had 11 which turns out was three more than bus four and carried 12% of all occupants. What is the mean, median, mode, range, and if applicable, outlier of total passengers?
5. What percent of New York Yankee's third baseman, Alex Rodriguez's income is represented in the answer to question three? Is this a problem as you see it? Explain.
6. Pretend the controller began his career at age 22 and worked four years. He took four years off to pursue a small business, returned for seven years only to later take off another five years, twice, to make the big bucks in the corporate world. After three more years working in management, he returned to his position as a controller and has been there for the past six consecutive years. How much older is he now than when he first began?
7. In the passage above, in paragraph form, explain at least five ways using the red "Four-Step Reading" poster simplifies understanding of the material. Be specific.
8. Using contextual clues only, explain the meaning of the italicized words: *revelation*, *alleviate*, *monetary*.
9. In paragraph form, summarize this edition of The Daughtry Times.
10. In paragraph form, explain five legitimate and educational purposes behind The Daughtry Times.