

[ CRAIG ]

A TABLE TOP EXERCISE WAS RUN BY HANCOCK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY WITH THE ISLAND'S FIRST RESPONDERS ON SEPTEMBER 26TH.

IN IT... A COMPUTER-BASED TEST SIMULATED A FATAL TRUCK ACCIDENT AT THE TOP OF THE DEER ISLE SEDGWICK BRIDGE, MAKING THE BRIDGE UNSAFE TO DRIVE ON.

THE PURPOSE WAS TO TEST HOW SUCH AN INCIDENT WOULD AFFECT FIRST RESPONDERS.

[ VO ]

[ SUPER: TEST RESULTS ABOUT BRIDGE ARRIVE /  
DEER ISLE / ]

WITH THE RESULTS OF THAT TEST READY TO UNVEIL TO THE PUBLIC, A TOWN MEETING WAS CALLED TO SHARE THEIR FINDINGS WITH ISLAND RESIDENTS. ACCORDING TO STONINGTON'S ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPER, THE SHORT-TERM RAMIFICATIONS OF THIS SCENARIO "CAN" BE HANDLED BY FIRST RESPONDERS.

IN THE LONG-TERM HOWEVER, WITH THE ISLAND BEING HOME TO MAINE'S LARGEST LANDINGS FOR LOBSTER PORTS AND SECOND LARGEST ISLAND ON MAINE'S COAST...

AN UNUSABLE BRIDGE COULD DRASTICALLY IMPACT THE ECONOMY OF THE ENTIRE ISLAND.

[ SOT ]

[ TIME CUE:// 0:17 ]

[ SUPER: LINDA NELSON / DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC  
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, STONINGTON / ]

[ THE LONG TERM RESPONSE TO THAT IS THAT THE MAINE DOT DID NOT HAVE A PLAN FOR HOW, IN THE EVENT OF A CATASTROPHIE FOR THE BRIDGE, WHAT DO WE DO? IS THERE A FERRY? NO. IS THERE A PLAN FOR HOW A BRIDGE WOULD BE REPLACED? NO. THERE IS NONE OF THAT IN PLACE. ]

[ VO ]

NELSON SAYS DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE BRIDGE BEGAN 18 MONTHS AGO WHEN IT WAS CLEAR CLIMATE CHANGE WAS FUELING STRONGER STORMS. THOSE STORMS LED TO VISIBLE IMPACT ON THE 84 YEAR OLD BRIDGE.

[ SOT ]

[ TIME CUE:// 0:12 ]

[ THERE'S A NEW FACTOR HERE, THERE'S A NEW VARIABLE PEOPLE NEED TO PAY ATTENTION TO THAT AND THERE'S ACTUALLY NEW FUNDING AVAILABLE TOO IT COINCIDENTLY WITH THAT. BECAUSE THERE IS FUNDING TO CREATE CLIMATE SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE. ]

[ VO ]

THE FUNDING IN QUESTION IS FEDERAL FUNDING THAT WOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH MAINE DOT FIRST.

MOVING FORWARD, ISLAND COMMUNITY LEADERS AND RESIDENTS WHO ATTENDED THE TOWN MEETING ARE PLANNING TO WRITE LETTERS TO

GOVERNMENT LEADERS ABOUT HOW CRUCIAL THE BRIDGE IS...BUT AT THE  
SAME TIME... HOW RANDOM BRIDGE CLOSURES, PLOWING CHALLENGES, AND  
OTHER ISSUES WITH THE BRIDGE CONFLICT WITH THEIR PERSONAL LIVES.

[ BETH ]

IN THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF LAST WEEKS SHOOTINGS, CONVERSATIONS ARE STARTING TO FOCUS ON WHAT IF ANYTHING COULD'VE BEEN DONE DIFFERENTLY AND WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN NEXT TO KEEP MAINERS SAFE.. ONE OF THE MANY AREA'S OF DISCUSSION IS MAINE'S YELLOW FLAG LAW. OUR DOUG BANKS SPOKE WITH LAWMAKERS TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE YELLOW FLAG LAW OPERATES.

[ PKG ]

[ TIME CUE:// 1:44 ]

[ SUPER: WHAT IS MAINE'S "YELLOW FLAG LAW"? /  
BANGOR / ]

[ "WHAT THAT ACTION WILL BE MUST BE THE PRODUCT OF A BROAD DISCUSSION AMONG A DIVERSE GROUP OF VOICES. THE PEOPLE OF MAINE DESERVE THIS DISCUSSION." ]

[ MAINE'S YELLOW FLAG LAW, PASSED ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO, IS ONE OF MANY THINGS FUELING CONVERSATION FOLLOWING THE HORRIFIC MASS SHOOTINGS IN LEWISTON. ]

[ MAINE'S YELLOW FLAG LAW, OR ACT TO PREVENT SUSTAINABLE THREATS, STARTS WITH A CALL TAKEN BY LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND COULD TAKE AWAY AN INDIVIDUALS FIREARM AFTER A COURT PROCEEDING. THE INDIVIDUALS NAME THEN GOES INTO A DATABASE. ]

[ SUPER: SENATOR JOE BALDACCIO / (D) -  
PENOBSCOT / ]

[ "WE HAVE NO PROCEDURE IN MAINE FOR ACTIVELY HAVING THOSE PEOPLE SURRENDER THEIR FIREARMS. WE SHOULD HAVE A REGISTRY, LIKE WE DO WITH THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY OF PROHIBITED PERSONS SO THAT EVERYBODY KNOWS WHO'S NOT SUPPOSE TO HAVE A GUN." ]

[ JUST FOUR YEARS AGO, REPRESENTATIVE BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM VOTED NO ON THE LAW PASSING, STATING HE WAS AIRING ON THE SIDE OF PROTECTING CITIZENS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS. ]

[ "IF THIS BILL WERE TO PASS, IT WOULD HAVE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES, IT WOULD COST THE LIVES OF VETERANS ]

[ . ]

[ SUPER: REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM / (R) -  
WINTER HARBOR / ]

[ "LOOKING AT IT IN HINDSIGHT, THAT DEFINITELY WAS A LAW THAT DID STRENGTHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT'S ABILITY TO TAKE WEAPONS FROM DANGEROUS PEOPLE ]

[ LAWMAKERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WILL CONTINUE TO DEBATE WHAT COULD HAVE OR SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE TO PREVENT THIS TRAGEDY...INCLUDING WHETHER MAINE'S YELLOW FLAG LAW DOES ENOUGH. ]

[ "WE HAVE A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY GOING FORWARD TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE SURE THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN." ]

[ "IT'S TOO EARLY TO POINT FINGERS BUT AT SOMEPOINT WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FIGURE OUT WHY THIS INDIVIDUAL DID NOT HAVE THEIR FIREARMS ]

TAKEN FROM THEM." ]

[ IN BANGOR DOUG BANKS ABC7 AND FOX22 NEWS ]

[ DAVID ]

HIGH SCHOOLERS FROM ACROSS MAINE TOOK OVER THE STATE HOUSE THIS WEEKEND FOR THE 80TH ANNUAL YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE. OUR AUGUSTA AREA REPORTER COREY BOUCHARD LEARNED MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM.

[ PKG ]

[ TIME CUE:// 1:48 ]

[ SOT 1: NATE WAYNE - BRUNSWICK , MAINE YOUTH GOVERNOR " THE MAINE YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAM IS ESSENTIALLY A MODEL LEGISLATURE SO WE ARE HERE TO BASICALLY PRETEND WE ARE THE MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE, BUT ALSO THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND THE JUDICIAL BRANCH" ]

[ TRACK 1: THE MAINE YMCA YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAM BEGAN IN 1943 AS A WAY TO HELP GET HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS. THIS YEAR OVER 165 STUDENTS FROM 17 SCHOOLS AND YMCA'S ARE TAKING OVER THE STATE HOUSE, GETTING THE FULL EXPERIENCE OF BEING IN THE LEGISLATURE, INCLUDING WRITING THEIR OWN BILLS. ]

[ SOT 2: BEN BURNHAM - KENNEBUNK - MAINE YOUTH SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE " WE ALL COME UP HERE AND WE WRITE OUR OWN BILLS, AND WE HAVE TRIALS ON THE BILLS AND WE HAVE A SUPREME COURT THAT CAN DETERMINE THE CONSTITUTIONALITY ON EACH BILL AND ITS A REALLY FUN THING TO BE A PART OF" ]

[ TRACK 2: THEY WERE SWORN IN BY THEIR GOVERNOR, AND JUST LIKE THE START OF EVERY LEGISLATIVE SESSION MET FOR A JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE. THEIR KEYNOTE SPEAKER WAS SENATE PRESIDENT TROY JACKSON WHO SPOKE ABOUT HIS JOURNEY TO THE STATE HOUSE, AND WHY IT WAS SO IMPORTANT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED IN POLITICS. ]

[ SOT 3: SEN PRESIDENT TROY JACKSON - (D) ALLAGASH " I HEARD A QUOTE FROM A YOUNG MAN THAT SAID GOVERNMENT WORKS FOR THE PEOPLE THAT SHOW UP AND THATS SOMETHING I THINK ABOUT ALL THE TIME, EXACTLY WHY ITS IMPORTANT IS BECAUSE THE ONLY WAY YOU ARE GONNA KNOW FOR SURE THAT THE THINGS IMPORTANT TO YOU ARE WORKED ON IS BY MAKING YOUR VOICE KNOWN AND SO FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TH EARLIER THEY FIND THAT OUT, THE BETTER" ]

[ TRACK 3: BOTH THE YOUTH GOVERNOR AND YOUTH HOUSE SPEAKER ENCOURAGE OTHER HIGH SCHOOLERS TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE PROGRAM NEXT YEAR. ]

[ SOT 4: BEN " I JUST RECOMMEND ANYBODY THAT HAS THE CHANCE TO TAKE IT ITS ALWAYS SOMETHING YOU CAN LOOK BACK ON AND SAY I DIDNT REALLY LIKE THAT AND YOU DONT HAVE TO GO THE NEXT YEAR" ]

[ NATE "IT'S NOT JUST FOR POLICY WONKS, ITS NOT JUST FOR THE ULTRA-POLITICAL, THERE'S A PLACE IN YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT FOR EVERYONE. THE YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAM IS REALLY JUST ABOUT GETTING YOU EXCITED ABOUT HELPING OUR STATE AND GENERATING PROGRESS" ]

[ MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR  
WEBSITE. AT THE STATE HOUSE, I'M COREY BOUCHARD FOR ABC 7 AND FOX  
22 NEWS ]

[ SUSAN ]

IN THE LAST WEEK OR SO, DOWNTOWN BANGOR HAS SEEN PROTESTS IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINE.

ONE OF THE SEVEN PROTESTERS ARRESTED OUTSIDE CONGRESSMAN JARED GOLDEN'S OFFICE WEDNESDAY NIGHT, WAS SIXTY-SIX YEAR OLD PENOBSCOT RESIDENT KRISTEN SALVATORE,

OUR DOUG BANKS VISITED HER AT HER HOME, TO ASK WHAT MOTIVATES HER TO SPEAK OUT.

[ PKG ]

[ TIME CUE:// 1:23 ]

[ SUPER: BEYOND THE MUGSHOT / BANGOR / ]

[ \*NATS\* WHEN A DEMONSTRATION TAKES PLACE OUTSIDE YOUR WINDOW....OR ON YOUR DRIVE HOME FROM WORK \*NATS\*. ]

[ WHAT YOU'LL SEE IS A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS...VOICING WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE TRUE. \*NATS\* ]

[ OR YOU'LL SEE A MUGSHOT, BUT IF YOU LOOK CLOSER... ]

[ SUPER: KRISTEN SALVATORE / ACTIVIST / ]

[ "I'M A PERSON WHO JUST CARES ABOUT MY FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS." \*NATS\* ]

[ BUT WHAT MOTIVATES KRISTEN SALVATORE TO STAND UP FOR WHAT SHE BELIEVES IN, KNOWING THE POSSIBILITY THAT SHE MAY BE ARRESTED FOR HER ACTIONS? ]

[ "I'VE BECOME MORE OUTSPOKEN BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE I NEED TO. SOMEBODY HAS TO SPEAK OUT FOR THESE PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY CAN'T SPEAK OUT FOR THEMSELVES. NOBODY LISTENS. IT'S ESPECIALLY INCUMBENT ON AMERICANS TO SPEAK OUT BECAUSE WE ARE FUNDING IT." ]  
[ HAVING HER VOICE HEARD IS VERY IMPORTANT AND SHE SAYS MORE PEOPLE SHOULD STAND UP. ]

[ " ]

[ . I HEARD A STATISTIC TODAY THAT EVERY TEN MINUTES A CHILD DIES. IT'S SO HORRIBLE TO ME WHAT IS HAPPENING AND SOMEBODY HAS TO SPEAK OUT FOR THESE PEOPLE. HOW OUR GOVERNMENT CAN SUPPORT THIS KIND OF MASSACRE IS JUST BEYOND ME. I DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT." ]

[ IN BANGOR DOUG BANKS ABC7 AND FOX22 NEWS ]

[ SUSAN ]

A NEW REPORT BY A STATE WATCHDOG AGENCY FINDS THE STATE MADE 'UN SOUND SAFETY DECISIONS' WITH THE FAMILY OF AN INFANT KILLED IN BREWER IN THE SPRING OF 2021.

OUR AUGUSTA REPORTER COREY BOUCHARD HAS MORE ON WHAT INVESTIGATORS SAY WAS A FAILURE AT MULTIPLE LEVELS WITHIN THE OFFICE OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES.

[ PKG ]

[ TIME CUE:// 2:01 ]

[ SUPER://PETER SCHLECK/DIRECTOR, OPEGA ]

[ SOT 1: PETER SCHLECK - DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PROGRAM EVALUATION AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY " THIS CASE PRESENTS NUMEROUS EXAMPLES IN WHICH THERE WERE ERRORS ON TOP OF ERRORS IN AN ONGOING INABILITY BY THE DEPARTMENT TO RECOGNIZE SIMPLE LACK OF PROTECTIVE CAPACITY" ]

[ SUPER://DHHS ISSUES FOUND IN BREWER INFANT DEATH/AUGUSTA ]

[ TRACK 1: PETER SCHLECK IS THE DIRECTOR FOR THE MAINE OFFICE OF PROHGRAM EVALUATION AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY, A STATE WATCHDOG AGENCY THAT IS CONDUCTING EVALUATIONS OF DHHS CASE FILES REGARDING CHILD DEATHS. ACCORDING TO SCHLECK THERE WERE NO INTERACTIONS BETWEEN CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND THE FAMILY OF JADEN HARDING DURING HIS SHORT LIFE, BUT THERE WAS A LONG HISTORY PRIOR ]

[ SOT 2: SCHLECK" JADEN LIVED JUST 6 WEEKS BUT JADEN HAD 3 OTHER HALF SIBLINGS AND THERE IS A HISTORY HERE THAT IS IN THE REPORT THAT GOES BACK 10 YEARS REGARDING THE OTHER 3" ]

[ TRACK 2: IN THOSE 10 YEARS, SCHLECK SAYS THERE WERE TWO INSTANCES IN WHICH PROTECTION WORKERS MADE POOR SAFETY DECISIONS WITH REGARDS TO HARDING'S THREE HALF SIBLINGS ]

[ SOT 3: SCHLECK " DECISIONS ABOUT THE PRIOR 3 CHILDREN ARE HIGHLY RELEVANT FOR ANY FUTURE CHILDREN BORN BECAUSE IT SETS THE STAGE OF WHAT'S TO COME" ]

[ TRACK 3: JADEN HARDING'S FATHER, RONALD HARDING WAS CONVICTED AND SENTENCED FOR VIOLENTLY SHAKING JADEN ON MEMORIAL DAY 2021, RESULTING IN HIS DEATH THE NEXT DAY. ACCORDING TO SCHELCK , HARDING DID NOT APPEAR TO BE A THREAT TO JADEN'S SAFETY. ]

[ SOT 4: SCHLECK" THE MAN CONVICTED BY A JURY OF MANSLAUGHTER JADENS FATHER, RONALD HARDING DID NOT APPEAR FROM OUR REVIEW TO HAVE PREVENTED EARLY ACTIONABLE SAFETY THREATS TO JADEN" ]

[ TRACK 4: SCHLECK WENT ONTO SAY THAT HAD JADEN AND THE OTHER CHILDREN BEEN REMOVED FROM THE HOME, HE LIKELY COULD'VE ENDED UP IN THE CUSTODY OF RONALD HARDING, WHICH MIGHT NOT HAVE CHANGED THE ULTIMATE OUTCOME. WE REACHED OUT TO DHHS FOR COMMENT ABOUT THE TESTIMONY AND RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE ]

[ //GFX// ]



[ TO READ THE FULL REPORT, YOU CAN VISIT OUR WEBSITE, AT THE STATE  
HOUSE, I'M COREY BOUCHARD FOR ABC 7 AND FOX 22 NEWS ]