PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
CLOSE OUT BUS ACCIDENT REPORT

BUS PROPERTY NAME: MTA BUS
CRITERIA CODE: Mechanical Failure
DATE/TIME: June 29, 2006; 5:35 am
DATE REPORTED: June 29, 2006
VEHICLES INVOLVED: 1
NUMBER OF INJURIES: 0
NUMBER OF FATALITIES: 0
TYPE OF BUS: MCI Classic
OTHER: N/A
ACCIDENT LOCATION: Sutphin Boulevard at 95th Avenue
ROADWAY TYPE: Asphalt
TRAFFIC CONTROL: N/A
LIGHT CONDITIONS: Daylight
INVESTIGATOR: M. Palanker
HOURS OF SERVICE: 29 min in last 24 hrs/24 hrs and 55 min in last 7 days

CASE NUMBER: 9006
TYPE OF ACCIDENT: Fire
ACCIDENT SEVERITY INDEX: 0.0
TIME REPORTED: 6:05 am
NUMBER OF INJURIES: 0
BUS NUMBER: 5883
NUMBER OF FATALITIES: 0
BUSINESS: N/A
OCCUPANTS: N/A

ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION:
At approximately 5:35 am, MTA Bus Company (MTA BC) bus #5883 was moving on Sutphin Boulevard at 95th Avenue when the transmission light on the dashboard came on and the bus driver noticed smoke in the rear of the bus. He stopped the bus, evacuated all passengers and called the Command Center for assistance. FDNY responded to the accident and put the fire out. The bus sustained moderate damage. No injury claims were reported.

A post accident drug and alcohol test was not administered to the bus driver due to the nature of the accident. The post accident investigation showed that the fire started from a short of the starter cable against the exhaust manifold, caused by the collapse of the rear bulkhead shelf. An inspection of a few similar vintage buses revealed bulkhead and structural concerns due to the age of the buses. MTA BC removed all MCI Classic buses from passenger service and replaced them with new coaches. According to the investigation it was determined that the bus fire was caused by the unpredictable structural failure of the engine compartment bulkhead due to the aging of the bus.

IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE BUS PROPERTY INVOLVED IN THIS ACCIDENT DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

SUBMITTAL

THE ABOVE ACCIDENT HAS BEEN INVESTIGATED AND MEETS ALL OF THE CONDITIONS IDENTIFIED IN PTSB RESOLUTION #1340 AND REQUIRE NO FURTHER ACTION.

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CHIEF, ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SECTION

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DIRECTOR, PCSB, NYSDOT

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DATE

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DATE