PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
CLOSE OUT BUS ACCIDENT REPORT

BUS PROPERTY NAME: MTA NYCT
CRITERIA CODE: Mechanical Failure
DATE/TIME: May 7, 2007 at 1:08 p.m.
DATE REPORTED: May 10, 2007
VEHICLES INVOLVED: 1
NUMBER OF FATALITIES: 0
NUMBER OF INJURIES: 0
CASE NUMBER: 9355
BUS NUMBER: 216
TYPE OF ACCIDENT: Fire
ACCIDENT SEVERITY INDEX: 0.00
TIME REPORTED: 10:44 a.m.
VEHICLES INVOLVED: 1
NUMBER OF INJURIES: 0
NUMBER OF FATALITIES: 0
TYPE OF BUS: Orion V
OTHER: None
BUS NUMBER: 216
PASSengers: 0
OCCUPANTS: 0

ACCIDENT LOCATION: E. Gun Hill Road at the intersection with Boston Road, Bronx, NY
ROADWAY TYPE: Asphalt
TRAFFIC CONTROL: Signal
LIGHT CONDITIONS: Daylight
ACCIDENT SEVERITY INDEX: 0.00
SPEED LIMIT: 30 mph
ROAD CONDITIONs: Dry
WEATHER: Clear
INVESTIGATOR: Harry W. Gerham
SUMMONS: None
HOURS OF SERVICE: 7 hr 14 min in last 24 hrs/54 hrs 49 min in last 7 days

ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION: MTA New York City Transit bus #216 was standing in the far side bus stop on E. Gun Hill Rd. at the intersection with Boston Rd. when the bus driver was informed by a pedestrian of smoke coming from the engine compartment of the bus. Almost simultaneously the fire suppression system activated and extinguished the fire. The fire department responded and insured that the fire was out. There were no injuries and the bus sustained slight damage in the vicinity of the starter. No post accident drug and alcohol tests were performed on the bus driver. Bus and bus driver records were reviewed and found to be complete, in-order and up-to-date. The bus records also showed no recurring defects or history of problems which would be considered causal to the fire. Inspection of the bus found that the starter solenoid, a non-maintenance item, had seized. The Public Transportation Safety Board staff finds that the most probable cause of the fire was the failure (seizure) of the starter solenoid which caused the positive power cable from the alternator to over heat and catch fire.

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 REQUIRES NO FURTHER ACTION.

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CHIEF, ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SECTION
DATE

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DIRECTOR, PCSB, NYSDOT
DATE