FEMA Wave 1 Script 2

Anchor:

Two commuter ferries carrying hundreds of passengers collide at Battery Park.

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Hello. I'm Greg Gist, live from VNN headquarters in New York City. Two commuter ferries carrying hundreds of passengers have collided off shore near Wall Street. First responders are at the scene as many commuters were rescued from frigid waters. More on the story is VNN Correspondent, Sophie Lee.

Sophie:

Greg, this morning, a ferry departing from Hoboken, New Jersey was at the end of its route to Wall Street, when it collided into another ferry. There were 400 passengers on board the ferries, including children as young as 2. We are confirming that eleven people were killed and 82 others were injured. Amongst the 82 injured, 2 are currently in critical condition. Witnesses report that some of the passengers were thrown overboard during the impact, and were being pulled out of 50 degree waters.

Anchor:

Sophie, do we know the cause of the accident?

Sophie:

Greg, law enforcement and officials from the NTSB are at the scene questioning witnesses and investigating the cause of the accident. There are witnesses claiming that the captain fainted minutes prior to docking at the pier. The captain was transported to a nearby hospital and sources close to the individual have mentioned that this individual had been sick with flu-like symptoms for the past week but has reported to work because of the absenteeism the ferry company had been experiencing due to the Malta Flu.

Anchor:

What a tragedy. Thanks Sophie. We will hear more on the developments of this story shortly.

But now let's turn to VNN Correspondent Russell Donald, for more on the Malta Flu.

Russell:

Hi Greg. The situation in emergency rooms across New York City has been chaotic. Here at Apple Medical Center, doctors and nurses have expressed frustration at the shortage of supplies and resources needed to provide care for patients who are possibly infected with the Malta Flu. The fear of contracting the

Malta Flu has spiked the demand for preventative seasonal flu shots, and local pharmacy chains already have depleted supplies due to this high demand. Another cause of frustration is the absenteeism of their own colleagues. Many medical staff have also contracted the Malta Flu and are unable to report to work. Greg.

Anchor:

Thanks Russell. We will keep you updated on any new developments.

I am Greg Gist, from VNN New York, we thank you for watching.