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Winnebago County Sheriff

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PRESS RELEASE 07/24/2024

This is an update to the original press release from 07/22/24 included below.

At this time, we are providing preliminary identification of the occupants of the plane.

At this time, it is believed one occupant has been identified as Sean M. Tommervik, age 37 formerly of El Paso, Texas, who had recently moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At this time, it is believed the other occupant has been identified as James G. Sullivan, age 32 formerly of Nashville, Tennessee, who had recently moved to Brooklyn, New York.

Official Medical Examiner confirmation will take additional time; however, after the initial investigation, there is no reason to believe the occupants were anyone other than Mr. Tommervik and Mr. Sullivan.

The plane involved was a Lancair Super ES with registration number N18BG. Mr. Tommervik is the owner of the plane.

The crash continues to be investigated by the NTSB. Further information will be released by the NTSB at a later date.

Original release:

On 07/22/24 at 12:15 pm, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office along with the City of Oshkosh Fire Department, Nekimi Fire Department and First Responders, Van Dyne Fire Department, Wisconsin State Patrol, and members of the NTSB responded to a farm field in the area of Old Knapp Rd and Nekimi Av in the Town of Nekimi for a plane crash. This area is about two miles south of the EAA Airventure event and was first reported by ATC in the Wittman Airport tower.

Upon arrival, responders discovered that the plane was fully engulfed in fire.

At this time, we can confirm that there were two occupants in the plane, and that they are both deceased.

The names of the deceased occupants and all other plane identifiers are being withheld at this time pending notification to the family.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation by NTSB.

Further questions can be directed to EAA Director of Communications Dick Knapinski at 920-379-1730 or dknapinski@eaa.org .

We were further assisted by the County Coroner's Office, Winnebago County Emergency Management, and ThedaStar.

Our deepest condolences are with the family and friends of the deceased occupants.

No further information will be released at this time.

For occasional updates 24/7/365, please feel free to check our Newsline at time by calling 920-236-7487