

Brannen John

From: Brad Beers [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2014 1:48 PM
To: Brannen John
Cc: Baker Beers
Subject: Shepherd, Texas, crash 9/27/2014 - pilot Marcus Schmitt - survivor Rene Alejandro Weatherford

Dear Mr. Brannen:

In follow up to your inquiry about interviewing and/or obtaining a statement from our client, Alex Weatherford, he is willing and able to visit with you.

Alex remains hospitalized at the Memorial Hermann Texas Medical Center Hospital (where he was taken originally by LifeFlight). He ultimately underwent bilateral above the knee amputations. His facial/cranial fractures (mainly on the right orbit and side of his face) were repaired surgically.

Generally, Alex recalls that he and Mr. Schmitt left Shepherd at about 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of Mr. Schmitt directing certain work that was being done at the CAVOK airpark project in Cleveland. They were supposed to be back to Shepherd by 4:00 p.m. since Alex and his wife (and children) needed to leave Shepherd by then due to an evening commitment in Houston. When Alex and Mr. Schmitt were almost back to Shepherd, Mr. Schmitt flew over some water that he pointed out to Alex (but this was not the water that is immediately adjacent to the runway in Shepherd). They did the flyover of the runway in Shepherd, banked to the right and climbed steeply making a U-turn. Alex does not presently remember anything further about the flight or the subsequent crash at this point.

Alex's wife, Nicola Dundas, M.D., can add that Alex had left his cellular telephone at the house in Shepherd. At approximately 4:15 p.m. Mr. Schmitt's fiancé attempted to contact Mr. Schmitt (it is uncertain if that was by a cellular call or by a text message). A few minutes later Nicola and the fiancé heard Mr. Schmitt's plane do its flyover, so the ladies gathered the two Weatherford children to go out onto the balcony to watch the expected landing. A matter of seconds after the ladies were onto the balcony they heard the crash. As you probably know, Nicola and the fiancé found the crash site and Mr. Schmitt was alive at that time.

If you would like, I can either obtain a written statement from Alex and forward that to you or I can coordinate a time for you or an associate of yours to meet with Alex and obtain the statement directly.

Please let me know how you would prefer to proceed.

Thanks,

Brad Beers
Beers Law Firm

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