

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
STATE POLICE**

ORIGINAL INCIDENT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE: Mon, Aug 28, 2017		INCIDENT NO: 073-0004095-17	
TIME RECEIVED: 1312		FILE CLASS: 97001	
WORK UNIT: MSP GAYLORD POST		COUNTY: OTSEGO	
COMPLAINANT: JOHN TAYLOR		TELEPHONE NO: [REDACTED]	
ADDRESS: STREET AND NO:	CITY:	STATE:	ZIP CODE:
INCIDENT STATUS: OPEN			

FLOAT PLANE CRASH

SUMMARY:

At 1312 hrs Gaylord Regional Communication Center dispatched all available units to the area of Bent Tree Dr and The Pines Golf course in the Michaywe subdivision to investigate a possible airplane crash. While enroute, further directions were broadcast that a float plane did crash near the end of Brink Trl off of Charles Brink Rd. The initial report was that the two occupants of the plane survived and were out of the aircraft. No fire occurred.

I arrived on scene at 1321 hrs and conducted an initial scene assessment. I discovered that the single engine float plane struck several trees before striking the ground and landing upside down. The plane had two male occupants that were out of the plane and being tended to by witnesses who arrived on scene prior to my arrival. I provided medical updates to GRCC.

The pilot verbally identified himself to me as **LUCIANO PIEROBON**. The passenger was verbally identified as **MICHEL POTVIN**.

Other emergency personnel soon arrived. Both men were transported by ambulance to Otsego Memorial Hospital and later transferred to Munson Medical Center, Traverse City MI.

The FAA and NTSB were both notified of the plane crash and responded to the scene on 8-29-17. Scene security was maintained by MSP personnel and members of the Otsego CERT team.

VENUE:

OTSEGO COUNTY
CHESTER TWP
GAYLORD, MI 49735

Located along the west side of an abandoned grassy airfield between Brink Trl and Ramona Trl

DATE & TIME:

ON OR AFTER: MON, AUG 28, 2017 AT 1312

COMPLAINANT:

NAM: JOHN TAYLOR

PAGE: 1 of 6	INVESTIGATED BY: RABINEAU, RONALD, [REDACTED] TROOPER	INVESTIGATED BY: CARLSON, MARVIN, [REDACTED] TROOPER	REVIEWED BY:
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NBR:	DIR:	SEX:	██████	DL:	/
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SFX:		HGT:		SI:	/
CTY:	ST:	WGT:		FBI:	
TXH:	ZIP:	HAI:		MNU:	
TXW:		EYE:		PR:	
MB:	██████████				
SMT:					

INTERVIEW COMPLAINANT:

Otsego Co 911 reported that a call was received from John Taylor who reported seeing a white colored float plane flying nearby. The plane was sputtering and a few seconds later it crashed near the area of Brink Trl near the Michaywe golf course.

PILOT VICTIM:

NAM: LUCIANO I PIEROBON			
BIR:		RAC:	██████
NBR:	DIR:	SEX:	██████
STR:		DOB:	██████████
SFX:		HGT:	██████
CTY:	ST:	WGT:	██████
TXH:	ZIP:	HAI:	
TXW:	32128	EYE:	
SMT:			

ETH:	
DL:	██████████
SSN:	██████████
SI:	/
FBI:	
MNU:	
PR:	

PASSENGER VICTIM:

NAM: MICHEL POTVIN			
BIR:		RAC:	██████
NBR:	DIR:	SEX:	██████
STR:		DOB:	██████████
SFX:		HGT:	██████
CTY:	ST:	WGT:	██████
TXH:	ZIP:	HAI:	
TXW:	32128	EYE:	
MB:	██████████		
SMT:			

ETH:	
DL:	██████████
SSN:	
SI:	/
FBI:	
MNU:	
PR:	

INTERVIEW VICTIM:

Not conducted on scene due to injuries.

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AIRPLANE DESCRIPTION:

A white with red and blue trim, single engine Cessna 180J float plane, no wheels attached.
Tail number **N180IP**.

Registration information obtained from paperwork in the aircraft.

Registered to: MARCO PIEROBON, [REDACTED] Rochester Hills MI 48306
Additional address of [REDACTED] Sterling Heights, MI. 48312
Registration issued Oct 17, 2011
Expiration date Oct 31, 2020
Aircraft serial #18052344

Standard Airworthiness Certificate
Issuance date 5-29-73

CRASH SCENE:

I conducted a scene assessment and observed several large trees that had been damaged. It appeared that the airplane was heading in a northeasterly direction when it struck two large white pine trees and then a birch tree. It appeared that the plane then struck the ground nose first before flipping onto its top. The plane landed on the perimeter of an old private airport strip with a grass landing area. The three wire perimeter fence was damaged by the crash and was cut by emergency personnel to access the crash site.

Both occupants were out of the plane upon my arrival. It was not determined yet if they exited on their own or were assisted. The pilot was laying prone with his head towards the south, approx.. 10 feet south of the plane. The passenger was sitting up approx.. 20 feet northwest of the plane.

WITNESS:

NAM: RONALD LEE HARTLEY

BIR: [REDACTED]
NBR: [REDACTED] DIR: [REDACTED]
STR: [REDACTED]
SFX: [REDACTED]
CTY: GAYLORD ST: MI
TXH: ZIP: 49735
TXW: [REDACTED]
MB: [REDACTED]
SMT: [REDACTED]

RAC: [REDACTED] ETH: [REDACTED]
SEX: [REDACTED] DL: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]
HGT: [REDACTED] SI: /
WGT: [REDACTED] FBI: [REDACTED]
HAI: [REDACTED] MNU: [REDACTED]
EYE: [REDACTED] PR: [REDACTED]

Ronald Hartley was tending to PIEROBON upon my arrival. Hartley had removed his shirt and had PIEROBON resting his head on his lap while applying direct pressure to the front of his neck to control bleeding. Hartley said that PIEROBON was laying face down and bleeding when he arrived. Harley stayed with PIEROBON until relieved by EMS.

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I contacted Hartley again by phone on 8-29-17 and asked about his observations. Hartley reported that he was on the deck at his house when he heard the plane fly by. He then heard the plane engine sputter and then it crashed. Hartley called 911 and proceeded to the airstrip believing that he would find the plane there. Hartley found both men out of the plane and tended to PIEROBON.

NAM: RICHARD ALAN FITTON

BIR: [REDACTED]
NBR: [REDACTED] DIR: [REDACTED]
STR: [REDACTED]
SFX: [REDACTED]
CTY: GAYLORD ST: MI
TXH: ZIP: 49735
TXW: [REDACTED]
MB: [REDACTED]
SMT: [REDACTED]

RAC: [REDACTED] ETH: [REDACTED]
SEX: [REDACTED] DL: [REDACTED]
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HAI: [REDACTED] MNU: [REDACTED]
EYE: [REDACTED] PR: [REDACTED]

Fitton was on scene and reported that he was golfing on the 14th hole at The Pines golf course when he heard a plane overhead. The plane's engine sputtered and then went out of site before he heard a loud crash.

NAM: DENNIS CHARLES CASTILE

BIR: [REDACTED]
NBR: [REDACTED] DIR: [REDACTED]
STR: [REDACTED]
SFX: [REDACTED]
CTY: GAYLORD ST: MI
TXH: ZIP: 49735
TXW: [REDACTED]
MB: [REDACTED]
SMT: [REDACTED]

RAC: [REDACTED] ETH: [REDACTED]
SEX: [REDACTED] DL: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]
HGT: [REDACTED] SI: /
WGT: [REDACTED] FBI: [REDACTED]
HAI: [REDACTED] MNU: [REDACTED]
EYE: [REDACTED] PR: [REDACTED]

Castile was also golfing with Fitton and gave a similar report. After hearing the crash, both golfers began searching for the plane crash and called 911.

NAM: CASEY MICHAEL BUCKLEITNER

BIR: [REDACTED]
NBR: [REDACTED] DIR: [REDACTED]
STR: [REDACTED]
SFX: [REDACTED]
CTY: GAYLORD ST: MI
TXH: ZIP: 49735
TXW: [REDACTED]
MB: [REDACTED]
SMT: [REDACTED]

RAC: [REDACTED] ETH: [REDACTED]
SEX: [REDACTED] DL: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED]
HGT: [REDACTED] SI: /
WGT: [REDACTED] FBI: [REDACTED]
HAI: [REDACTED] MNU: [REDACTED]
EYE: [REDACTED] PR: [REDACTED]

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Buckleitner was on scene and reported that he was nearby when he heard the plane overhead. He heard the plane engine sputtering, revving, sputtering, revving and then stop. He then heard 2 crashes and thought that the plane struck trees.

NAM: SPENCER JAMES HOYT

BIR:

NBR: [REDACTED]

DIR:

RAC: [REDACTED]

ETH:

STR: [REDACTED]

SEX: [REDACTED]

DL: /

SFX: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

SSN:

CTY: GAYLORD

ST: MI

HGT:

SI: /

TXH:

ZIP: 49735

WGT:

FBI:

TXW:

HAI:

MNU:

MB: [REDACTED]

EYE:

PR:

SMT:

Hoyt was on scene upon my arrival. Hoyt reported that he was at his mothers house at [REDACTED] Krys Rd when he heard a plane overhead. Hoyt reported hearing the engine sputter and then a loud pop. Hoyt then heard the crash. Hoyt then travelled to the crash site and assisted where needed.

WEATHER CONDITIONS:

Weather conditions reported by the NOAA at the Gaylord Regional Airport at 12:53 pm were as follows;

Temp.- 64*

Humidity- 78%

Dew point- 57*

Visibility- 10 miles

Wind speed- 3.5 mph

Wind direction- variable

Precipitation- N/A

Overcast skies

SCENE SECURITY:

Tprs remained on scene until 11pm when CERT members then maintained scene security. I relieved the CERT members at 5am and remained until relieved by the FAA.

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FAA:

GRCC contacted the FAA in Grand Rapids, MI. I spoke with Robert (Bob) Holdridge, [REDACTED] (office) [REDACTED] (cell) and provided him with the investigation information. Bob advised that the FAA would be enroute on 8-29-17 with an ETA of 10am.

NTSB:

The NTSB out of Denver CO was also notified. I spoke with Alexander Lemishko, [REDACTED] and provided him with the investigation information.

On 8-29-17 I was advised that a member of the NTSB was enroute with an ETA of 10am.

MSP OPERATIONS:

Notified by GRCC.

OTHER PERSONNEL:

I was assisted on scene by Tprs M Carlson, Jess Halleck and members of the HST team Geyer, Voss, Stimak and Rickleffs. Otsego Co Sheriff's Deputies Fox and Lingbeck, Otsego Co EMS, Otsego Co Fire Dept, Otsego Co Road Commission, Gaylord Regional Airport Manager Matt Barresi.

PHOTO'S:

I took numerous photo's of the crash scene with my departmental digital camera. Photo's uploaded to Digital Crime Scene.

EXTERNAL DOCUMENT:

None.

IN CAR VIDEO:

Yes, [REDACTED] recorded the crash scene.

STATUS:

OPEN

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