

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

May 16, 2019

Personal Electronic Devices

Specialist's Factual Report By Christopher Babcock

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Hatch, New Mexico
Date: November 4, 2017
Aircraft: Cessna 172N
Registration: N251CH
Operator: Private
NTSB Number: CEN18FA024

On November 4, 2017, about 1630 mountain daylight time, a Cessna 172N, N251CH, sustained substantial damage when it impacted terrain near the Hatch Municipal Airport (E05), Hatch, NM. The pilot and three passengers received fatal injuries. The airplane was owned by Caribbean Paradise LLC and operated by the pilot under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 as a personal flight. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the flight, which was not on a flight plan. The estimated departure time from E05 was between 1630 to 1730, and the destination was the El Paso International Airport (ELP), El Paso, Texas.

2. GROUP

A group was not convened.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Vehicle Recorder Division received the following personal electronic devices (PEDs):

Device Manufacturer/Model:	Apple iPhone 6
Serial Number:	NA
Device Manufacturer/Model:	Apple iPhone 7+
Serial Number:	NA
Device Manufacturer/Model:	Samsung Note 5
Serial Number:	NA

Device Manufacturer/Model:	Samsung Note 3
Serial Number:	NA

Device Manufacturer/Model:	Samsung Galaxy S8+
Serial Number:	NA

Device Manufacturer/Model:	Canon G7X Camera
Serial Number:	NA

4. DEVICE INVESTIGATION

4.1. Apple iPhone 6

The phone powered up normally and was not protected by a passcode (Figure 1). No relevant data related to the accident was recovered.



Figure 1. Apple iPhone 6, as received.

4.2. Apple iPhone 7+

The phone did not power up normally (Figure 2). With agreement from the IIC, no further recovery attempts were made.



Figure 2. iPhone 7+, as received.

4.3. Samsung Note 5

The phone powered up normally and was not protected by a passcode (Figure 3). No relevant data related to the accident was recovered.



Figure 3. Samsung Note 5, as received.

4.4. Samsung Note 3

A microSD card was recovered from the device (Figure 4). No relevant data related to the accident was recovered from the microSD card. The device powered up normally but was protected by a passcode. With agreement from the IIC, no further recovery attempts were made.



Figure 4. Galaxy Note 3, as received.

4.5. Samsung Galaxy S8+

The phone did not power up normally (Figure 5). With agreement from the IIC, no further recovery attempts were made.



Figure 5. Samsung Galaxy S8+, as received.

4.6. Canon G7X Camera

The camera's SD card was examined using forensic tools to recover videos and photographs from the accident flight that may have been corrupted during the accident (Figure 6). Videos from the inbound flight to Hatch were recorded on the camera's SD card, however, no videos or photographs from the accident flight were recovered.



Figure 6. Canon G7X camera, as received.