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OAS

Date: September 23, 2023

Subject: CEN23FA412, MOR-Witness Statements

Contact: Eddy County Sheriff's Office (ECSO), New Rockford, North Dakota

The following witness statements were provided by the Eddy County Sheriff's Office.

Ms. Maggie Hagen reported that she was traveling southbound on road 281 and observed the airplane east of highway 281 spraying the field from east to west. The airplane was going up and down as if the pilot was trying to decide whether to fly over or under the power lines. The airplane flew under and then something was swinging around on the back of the airplane. The airplane was low as it approached the highway and then ascended and spiraled nose first to the ground.

Mr. Randy Goodmundson reported that he was on the highway and observed the airplane was flying west spraying the sunflower field east of 281. The airplane struck the power lines as it transitioned under the wires, and a section of the empennage was "flopping around" as it flew over the highway. The airplane made a left turn and descended to the ground.

Deputy Roberts of the ECSO reported that the witness statements were consistent, that the airplane flew below the power lines above the flower field east of the highway where the plane crashed. As the plane passed under the power lines, it connected and sheared off the top of the tail of the airplane. After the impact, the airplane started to shake and lose control while flying straight west. As the airplane crossed the highway it flew over the power lines on the west side of the road. The airplane made a left turn then descended inverted in a nose down attitude and impacted the ground.

END