



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

Constituent Services
Office 800.282.0515
Fax... 614.644.5438

30 E. Broad Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

August 21, 2014

National Transportation Safety Board
Hon. Christopher Hart
490 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20594

Dear Chairman Hart:

I am writing you regarding the crash of Leo "Kent" Wingate's Piper Cherokee (Tail No 4506W), single engine aircraft, on May 7, 2014, near Covington, Tennessee.

Kent graduated from the United States Air Force Test Pilot School and spent 20 years in the Air Force. He logged hundreds of hours as a Flight Test Engineer, and after his retirement from the Air Force, he spent 11 years as a professional flight engineer where he was responsible for planning flight fueling, loads, and balancing analysis for hundreds of flights each year.

Kent is also the Chair of Aviation at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio.

My understanding is that the National Transportation Safety Board is near the completion of its investigation into Kent's crash and that it will conclude that the crash was due to fuel starvation because of pilot error.

I have also been told that the plane wreckage has not been inspected during the investigation.

I am asking that the plane wreckage be inspected before the investigation is concluded. With all of Kent's experience, especially in the area of calculating flight fuels, it seems highly unlikely that the lack of fuel would have been because of "pilot error." An inspection of the airplane wreckage might reveal a problem with the plane that could not have been detected through normal maintenance or pre-flight inspections.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you need any further information, feel free to contact me at 614-728-5458.

Very respectfully yours,

MIKE DEWINE
Ohio Attorney General

CC: ✓ John Delisi, Director of the Office of Aviation Safety for the NTSB
Jane Terry, Government Affairs Division Chief for the NTSB