

Hicks Ralph

From: Seamus Mulcare [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 2:30 PM
To: Hicks Ralph
Subject: [Fwd: RE: N9021X Accident]

Hello,
Here is the statement I sent to the FAA.

Thank you, again. If I can offer anymore information or help in anyway, please let me know.

Seamus Mulcare

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: N9021X Accident
From: Juan.Garcia [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, October 5, 2017 2:02 pm
To: seamus [REDACTED]

Thanks for the statement.

Juan C Garcia
Aviation Safety Inspector
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
FSDO-19

[REDACTED]
Miramar, FL 33027
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Seamus Mulcare [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 11:54 AM
To: Garcia, Juan (FAA) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: N9021X Accident

Good morning Mr Garcia,

I was able to retrieve the text messages between Mr Ivor Noel and me regarding his transporting my airplane without my knowledge. I never gave him keys nor permission to fly my airplane. (He even says in one text that it would be a good idea in the future to leave a set on St Thomas.) I still do not know why he was flying my airplane.

The following is a breakdown of what happened prior to and after hurricanes Irma and Maria concerning me, Mr. Noel and my Cessna 182D, tail number N9021X.

On Monday September 4, 2017, I made arrangements with Ivor Noel to accompany me on a flight to St Croix on Tuesday, September 5, 2017, to put my airplane into a hangar at Bohlke to protect her from Hurricane Irma which was

due to hit on Wednesday. I wanted a copilot because I was worried about the outer bands of the storm and wanted someone who was familiar with that flight to help in case I encountered clouds or any other issues. I booked two tickets for a return flight for us on Cape Air for Tuesday morning.

On Tuesday morning I received an email from Cape Air that all flights were canceled and we would not be able to get back from St Croix. My wife and I live (lived) on St John and I did not want to leave her alone to fend for herself in the storm because the forecasts were getting progressively worse. I texted Mr. Noel and told him we would not be going because we couldn't get back. I then called the few places on St Thomas with hangars to see if they could squeeze in one more but no one could help me. Mr Noel informed me that he would "pick a tie down spot and secure her and check periodically." I asked if he needed keys. He answered back that he did not, and "to leave a set of keys on STT won't hurt."

I then learned from my landlord that he was not boarding up our house like he usually does, so I left to go to the hardware store and grocery store to get materials and supplies. I returned a while later and began preparing my house for the storm. I checked my phone around 1:15 on Tuesday, 2017, and saw two messages from Mr Noel, one at 11:14 a.m.

saying "I found a key that works. All I need is a ride back" and one at 1:14 p.m. saying "Hi I'll be landing in 15min to bolkie" (sic) I tried to call him and got his voicemail and then texted him at 1:17 p.m. saying "With my plane?" At 1:18 he wrote back "I got a ride back that needs to be paid. Most important plane is on STX." I asked who to pay for ride and that I would come over after the storm to take care of him. At 1:47 he texted me photos of my airplane being towed into the hangar on St Croix. I did not know he was flying her nor did I give him permission, although I was grateful that my plane was in a safe place. I then went back to hurricane preparations.

On Wednesday September 6, 2017, the day hurricane Irma struck St John, I texted Mr. Noel at 6:38 a.m. saying "Be safe. Thank you again." He texted back to do the same.

The storm destroyed our home. Our roof peeled off and all the walls collapsed. When my wife and I ventured out of the shower stall we hid in for 8 and a half hours we saw that we lost everything including my phone which was in a puddle of water. I dried it out but didn't use it for several days. (There was limited cell coverage anyway.)

We were evacuated from St John on Tuesday September 12, 2017. I still could not use my phone because the battery was dead and my charger was lost in the storm.

We eventually made to the States on Friday September 15, 2017. A friend we were staying with had a charger that fit so I was able to get a partial charge on my phone.

On Monday September 18, 2017, at 5:18p.m. I received a text from Mr. Noel with a photo of my plane saying, "I put your baby in a hangar in Puerto Rico today. I hope you guys are fine. Please call or text me." I attempted to call but could not, so I texted him at 7:33 p.m. saying "we are in the States. We lost our house. We survived. Hope you are safe and remain safe," since hurricane Maria was heading to the Virgin Islands.

On Tuesday September 19, 2017, at 2:11 p.m. I wrote to Mr Noel, "Hey Noel. Can't get through on phone. Please be safe. If I can help in anyway from this end please let me know. I know PR is prepping as well but like to give credit card number or something?" He sent a fairly lengthy text telling me what I owed to Bohlke and Pr.

On Wednesday September 20, 2017, I texted Mr. Noel asking if he was okay. He texted back saying he was. I texted again telling him I would contact both businesses as soon as they were able to communicate and thanked him for his help. My annual inspection was coming up for my airplane and I knew I would be stuck in the States for a while, so I was going to make arrangements to get my inspection done on Puerto Rico where she was and pick her up from there when I got some pieces of my life back together. Then my phone stopped working.

I then got a replacement phone from a friend, and on Saturday September 23,2017, at 9:18 a.m. saying “your baby is back in St. Thomas safe and sound.” I wrote back that I was glad he contacted me because “my phone finally died, and am borrowing one from a friend but lost my contacts. We are still making our way to Maryland. I’m glad you are safe. Still praying for you.”

We had no further contact until Monday, October 2, 2017, when my wife received an email from a Mr Ricardo Valez saying our airplane was involved in an accident on Puerto Rico. We thought it was some sort of scam because we assumed our plane was tied up on St Thomas “safe and sound” according to Mr Noel. At no time did I ever give Mr Noel permission to fly my airplane. I was grateful that he took it upon himself to get her out of harm’s way without my knowledge but did not tell him to do so, nor that he could use it as his personal plane. I still have the keys in my possession and do not know how he started her without them. She was a 1961 Skylane completely refurbished with only 350 hours on the engine. I would NEVER allow ANYONE to use it, especially during a crisis with military craft and debris everywhere. I thought she would remain in a hangar until I returned.

On Monday October 2,2017, at 8:57 p.m. I tried to call Mr. Noel but received a message that he was not available. At 8:58 p.m. I texted Mr Noel asking why my plane was upside down in Puerto Rico, but apparently he had already passed away.

I am truly sorry that Mr Noel died, but if he had not taken my airplane without permission he would still be alive.

If I can help in anyway with the investigation please let me know.

Thank you for your help in this tragedy.

Sincerely,

Seamus Mulcare

[REDACTED]

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Seamus Mulcare

St. John Cakes

[REDACTED]