

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

March 10, 2022

Personal Electronic Devices

Specialist's Factual Report By Gerald Kawamoto

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Pembroke Pines, Florida
Date: March 15, 2021
Aircraft: Beech B36TC
Registration: N236BC
Operator: Private
NTSB Number: ERA21FA154

2. GROUP

A personal electric device 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 XS Max
IMEI:	357279091786912
Device Manufacturer/Model:	Apple iPad Air 2
Serial Number:	DLXP57BSG5VW

3.1. Device Description

PEDs are a category of devices comprised primarily of portable computing devices and mobile phones. Portable computing devices are typically capable of taking photos and videos, internet access, email, messaging services, and can run user-installed applications to perform specific tasks. PED user and system data is typically stored on non-volatile memory and can be accessed through manufacturer-provided interfaces.¹

3.2. Data Recovery

Upon arrival at the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory, external examinations revealed the devices had sustained heat, moisture, and impact damage, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, rendering them inoperable. The logic boards were removed and tested using laboratory

¹ Non-volatile memory is semiconductor memory that does not require external power for data retention.

tools. The devices were unable to power on normally using surrogate parts and additional attempts at yielding data were unsuccessful, thus no data were recovered.



Figure 1. Front and back of the iPhone XS Max as received.



Figure 2. iPad Air 2 as received.