



UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL

OFFICER REPORT

Incident: IU4663466

Report: R12150653

Page: 1 of 2

Case: 17SL05275

DETAILS

Activity Codes: **705-Assist Local Agencies**

Location: **Approx. 6 miles into Butterfield Canyon**

Case Disposition: **Inactive**

Occurred on: **07/13/2017** From: **09:51** To: **13:42**

Officer Activity on: **07/13/2017** From: **09:51** To: **13:42**

NARRATIVE

Summary:

This report pertains to a small aircraft accident in Butterfield Canyon on July 13, 2017 at approximately 09:51am.

Details:

- 1- At approximately 09:51am on July 13, 2017 I was traveling in a westerly direction up Butterfield Canyon approximately 6 miles into the canyon. This was my first time traveling in this particular canyon and the narrow road I was traveling on was on the south side of a mountain slope.
- 2- As I was traveling up the canyon I noticed an aircraft flying low up the canyon. I noticed it for only a brief couple seconds. A few moments later I happened to look over my left shoulder over and across the steep mountain valley toward the opposing mountain side. As I did, I observed a yellow aircraft (unknown make/model) making a steep right turn and that the nose of the aircraft had just started to drop or lose altitude. I could easily see the tops of both wings as it was in that turn. I did not see any smoke coming from the aircraft while it was in the air. I do not recall what the engine/propeller was doing but the aircraft didn't appear to be going very fast. I can not give any indication of the air speed. The aircraft appeared though to have no where to go, due to the mountain sides making a sort of "U" shape surrounding them. I lost sight of the aircraft while it was in the turn and only had visual with the aircraft for a brief couple seconds due to the nature of the roadway and mountainside I was on.
- 3- I continued to drive up the canyon looking for a spot to pull over to see if the aircraft was able to make the turn and head back out of the canyon. I found a pullout spot on the south side of the road I didn't see any aircraft or smoke at that point. I drove further up the canyon and then observed smoke coming up from toward the bottom of the canyon in the area I last observed the aircraft. I called for Salt Lake Dispatch to put the Utah Highway Patrol (UHP) helicopter on standby. I continued to drive up the canyon looking for a spot I might be able to see and locate the aircraft and make my way down to it. I was unable to find any safe spot to make my way down to the aircraft due to steep mountain side and dense vegetation but observed heavy smoke from the mountain floor in the approximate area where the aircraft was last seen. I was not able to see the aircraft itself. I advised Salt Lake dispatch to put the UHP helicopter in the air. Salt Lake Dispatch notified the UHP helicopter, Unified Police and Salt Lake County Fire/Rescue to respond. At approximately 10:02am Salt Lake Dispatch entered my location as Lat/Long. 40.487506, -112.176506 and at approximately 11:15am at 40.32423, -111.48787.
- 4- I observed what appeared to be a roadway down in the valley near where the smoke was coming from. I made my way back down the canyon toward the road that I observed. I found a gate blocking the roadway so that I was unable to pass or continue. I met Sergeant Andy Arnn with Unified Police at the gate and remained there until they were able to locate a key to unlock the gate and other Fire/Rescue personnel was able to enter. I did not go past the gate and I never approached or saw the aircraft on the ground.
- 5- I met with Detective Zach Bench with Unified Police and gave him a statement as to what I saw. I also gave Detective Bench a copy of a video of the roadway I was on and the smoke coming up from bottom of the canyon. I have no video of the actual airplane accident or the airplane itself.
- 6- Unified Police investigated the aircraft accident. Unified Police case 17-111005.
- 7- This concluded my involvement with this incident.

REPORTING OFFICER

Officer's Name

Badge

Signature

Printed On

Watkins, Jay



07/18/2017 At: 09:02

0

UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL

OFFICER REPORT

Incident: IU4663466

Report: R12150653

Page: 2 of 2

Case: 17SL05275

ASSISTING OFFICERS

Agency

Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office

Case: 17-111005

Incident:

Officer's Name

Arnn, Andy

Badge

Report:

Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office

Case: 17-111005

Incident:

Bench, Zach

Report:

SUPERVISOR

Agency

Utah Highway Patrol

Officer's Name

Smith, Matt

Badge

(APPROX. VIEW)
(VANTAGE POINT)

W N
S E

APPROX. AREA AIRCRAFT
IN RIGHT TURN OVER
CRASH SITE



APPROX AREA
CRASH SITE

7/19/2017

Google Maps

APPROX. AREA
VIDEO 1

PULLOUT SOUTH
SIDE OF ROAD
WATCHED FOR AIRCRAFT
TO COME OUT

Google Maps

APPROX. AREA I
OBSERVED AIRCRAFT
IN RIGHT TURN OVER
CRASH SITE

N
W E
S



Map data ©2017 Google United States 1000 ft

APPROX. AREA
OF CRASH SITE

POSSIBLE APPROX. AREA
I FIRST OBSERVED
AIRCRAFT IN LEVEL FLIGHT



James M. Winder
Sheriff

A. Arnn
Sergeant

Midvale Precinct
7912 South Main Street
Midvale, Utah 84047

Case#: 17-111005



James M. Winder
Sheriff

Zach Bench
Detective
Violent Crimes/Homicide Unit

Investigations Division
3365 South 900 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

Case#: 17-111005