

# LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## RELEASE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION



*Larry Campbell, Sheriff*

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### Update: Plane Crash Investigation

On Wednesday November 4, 2009, at approximately 7:28PM, Leon County Sheriff's Deputies responded to the report of a possible plane crash. Tallahassee Regional Airport reported that a plane may have crashed northwest of the airport. The Tallahassee Fire Department and Sheriff's Deputies began a search of the National Forest between the airport and Aeon Church Road. The wreckage of a Cessna 172 aircraft was located approximately 1 mile northwest of the airport. The Cessna 172 is a four-seat, single-engine aircraft. The aircraft cockpit had been extremely compromised and the pilots were deceased. Tallahassee Fire Fighters and Sheriff's Deputies secured the crash site and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and the Federal Aviation Administration were advised of the crash. Tentative identification of the pilots was made on scene and their families notified.

Senior NTSB Air Safety Investigator Brian Rayner arrived in Tallahassee on Thursday morning and began an investigation into this crash. According to Investigator Rayner, early reports indicate the plane crashed soon after it took off from the Tallahassee Regional Airport Wednesday night. Rayner reported the pilots were practicing airport traffic patterns and crashed soon after take off. According to Rayner, air traffic controllers realized something was wrong when they spotted a fire in the nearby National Forest. There is no indication the pilot(s) issued any type of distress call.

An autopsy of the deceased was conducted Thursday afternoon and attended by Leon County Sheriff's Deputies. Positive identification could not be made by the Medical Examiners Office until late Friday morning. The pilots are identified as Mark Revet (58yoa) and Michael Piette (63yoa), both from Tallahassee. Sheriff's Deputies continue to assist the NTSB with their investigation of this crash.

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