



MORTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Kyle L. Kirchmeier, Sheriff



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Victims of fatal plane crash found northwest of Mandan

Mandan, N.D. – All three first responders on a Metro Area Ambulance flight from Bismarck to Williston late last night were killed after the aircraft crashed into a remote pasture northwest of Mandan in Morton County.

At approximately 11:00 p.m. last night, the Bismarck Airport FAA tower reported the aircraft as missing after having taken flight a half hour prior. The Civil Air Patrol and Air Force Rescue Team from Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida were able to track the aircraft's last location through cell phone forensics and radar analysis to a location northwest of Mandan.

The Morton County Sheriff's Office began a search of the area and discovered the crash site in a pasture about three miles west of ND Highway 25. The three occupants of the aircraft – a pilot, a nurse and a paramedic – were transported by Oliver County Ambulance to the medical examiner's office. The plane was confirmed as the Metro Ambulance aircraft once MCSO found the tail with the matching registration number.

The fuselage and other aircraft debris is spread over a large area; the cause of the crash is still under investigation.

The National Traffic Safety Board and the Federal Aviation Administration will be conducting an investigation to determine the cause of the crash. Mandan Rural Fire Department also assisted in the search.

Names of the victims will be released after next of kin have been notified.

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