

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Media Release

Sandusky Patrol Post • Sandusk



For Immediate Release
August 13, 2010

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Aircraft crash

The Sandusky Patrol Post was advised of an aircraft crash that occurred approximately 11:35 hours on August 13, 2010, in Lake Erie off the southwest corner of South Bass Island. The crash occurred approximately one half mile from the Put-In-Bay Airport. The aircraft, a 1977 Cessna T210M, occupied by the pilot and three passengers were attempting a landing on runway 03 and making their final turn when the aircraft experienced a loss of power. The pilot attempted to restart the aircraft several times unsuccessfully and made the decision to land the aircraft on the water. The pilot turned the aircraft toward an incoming ferry boat and landed the aircraft approximately 150 feet from the Miller Ferry pier. The pilot and two rear passengers exited the left side door and the right front passenger was pulled from the aircraft by the pilot through the luggage hatch. Deckhands from Miller Ferry threw out a life ring and life vests to the aircraft occupants. The aircraft sank in 22 feet of water.

The pilot, Mark F. Neal, age 61, Westland, Michigan, was the owner of the 1977 Cessna. He was not injured.

Passenger Amber McClure, age 21, Detroit, Michigan, was a rear seat passenger and had a bruised shoulder.

Passenger Michael Reddy, age 67, Westland, Michigan, was a rear seat passenger and was not injured.

Passenger Ashley Braunstein, age 21, Detroit, Michigan, was a front seat passenger and was not injured.

The FAA responded to the scene and is investigating the crash. The U.S. Coast Guard, Ohio Division of Watercraft, Put-in-Bay Police Boat, all responded to the scene.

Rescue Marine, Marblehead, Ohio, is on scene and handling the recovery of the aircraft.

Put-in-Bay Police Department and Fire Department also responded to the scene. The crash remains under investigation.