



## **PRESS RELEASE**

From the office of:  
Sheriff James Stuart  
Anoka County Sheriff's Office  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Helicopter Crash in Lino Lakes**

On October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 1728 hrs the Lino Lakes Police Department was dispatched to an aircraft crash in an open field near the intersection of County Road 14 (Main Street) and Sunset Ave. First responders from many law enforcement, Minnesota State Patrol Air Support, fire and EMS services responded to the crash site and found an obvious impact site in an open sod field and a trail of debris that went in a southwest direction of travel from the impact site that was several hundred yards long. The impact area contained the remains of the fuselage of the aircraft and there was a large fireball of impacted debris present. There was no possibility that any occupants of the aircraft could have survived the crash.

Witness statements describe a helicopter that was traveling in a northeast direction suddenly experiencing distress. Some describe hearing a loud "pop" or "explosion" and seeing the helicopters rotors stop spinning and the helicopter falling from the sky and breaking apart. The amount of debris and the area in which it was scattered suggest the aircraft was breaking apart as it fell from the sky.

After preliminary investigation by the Anoka County Sheriff's Office, it was determined that the Helicopter was a 1982 Fairchild Hiller FH-1100 and that it had been in flight earlier in the day with no mechanical issues known. It's believed that the second, fatal flight originated from the Anoka County Airport in Blaine. There are two confirmed decedents whose bodies have been recovered from the crash site. The decedents are

Pilot: 48 year old male from Minneapolis, MN  
Passenger: 47 year old female from Blaine, MN

The names of the decedents are being withheld pending notification of family and verifying the identity of the remains. Officials from the FAA and NTSB will conduct an investigation in the cause of the crash. IF any members of the public in the area of the crash find any debris or unusual objects they are asked to call law enforcement at (763) 427-1212. The case remains under the investigation of the Lino Lakes Police Department, The Anoka County Medical Examiner's Office and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office.

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