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CCSO, partner agencies respond to fatal plane crash

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saturday, March 25, 2023

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – First responders remain at the scene of a fatal airplane crash early Saturday afternoon in marshland near Johns Island.

Multiple callers, including boaters on the nearby Stono River, reported shortly before 1 p.m. that the small plane went down into pluff mud in the area of Legareville Road on Johns Island. Numerous local agencies responded to the location, which is accessible only by boat.

The response by the Charleston County Sheriff's Office to assist in the effort included patrol deputies and a Marine Patrol airboat. An incident command post was formed on James Island at the Sol Legare Boat Landing, which was closed for several hours during the recovery effort.

About 5 p.m., the remains of one person were recovered from the crash site. At this time, there is only one confirmed victim. The Charleston County Coroner's Office will identify the victim when appropriate.

About 6 p.m., most crews cleared the command post at the boat landing, which was reopened.

Federal authorities, including the Federal Aviation Administration, were responding to begin the investigation. Further questions about the investigation and the aircraft should be directed toward them.

Local agencies that responded include, but are not limited to, the S.C. Department of Natural Resources, St. John's Fire Rescue, James Island PSD Fire Department, Charleston Police Department, Charleston Fire Department, Charleston County Rescue Squad, Charleston County EMS, Charleston County Coroner's Office and Charleston County Aviation Authority Police Department.

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