



CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

SHERIFF JEFF FRANKLIN

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COPY

ON 02/19/96 AT 1458. THE CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A 911 CALL ADVISING THAT THEIR HAD BEEN A HELICOPTER CRASH-LOCATION (FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP, SEC #29, CLAY COUNTY, NEBRASKA, NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT TRANSMISSION TOWER #66.). THE CALLER ADVISED THAT THE PILOT, AND A LINEMAN WERE HURT IN THE CRASH.

CLAY COUNTY DISPATCHER-(RUDENBECK). PAGED OUT FAIRFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE. ALSO LIFE FLIGHT. OUT OF KEARNEY WAS CONTACTED TO BE ENROUTE TO THE SCENE.

AT 1612 FAIRFIELD FIRE. FIRE CHIEF TOOD DIENES. AND FAIRFIELD RESCUE-99 UNIT 1 & 2. CAPT/EMT-SIEMSEN. ARRIVED AT THE SCENE.

AT 1619 REPORTING OFFICER JEFF FRANKLIN SHERIFF CLAY COUNTY, AND DEPUTY TROY STAR. ARRIVED AT THE SCENE. R/O TOOK CHARGE OF THE CRASH SCENE. AT THIS TIME IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT BOTH PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE CRASH WERE DECEASE. LIFE FLIGHT AT THIS TIME WAS CANCELED. R/O SPOKE TO THE FAIRFIELD RESCUE CAPT/EMT-SIEMSEN. EMT SIEMSEN ADVISED R/O THAT WHEN THEY ARRIVED AT THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT LINE CREWS WERE BRING DOWN THE LINEMAN BY A ROPE AND PULLEY SET UP. R/O WAS THEN ADVISED THAT THE PILOT OF THE HELICOPTER WHEN FAIRFIELD RESCUE ARRIVED AT THE SCENE WAS ON THE GROUND AND THE LINE CREW WAS TRYING TO RENDER AID. FIRE OF HELICOPTER PUT OUT BY LINE CREW.

AT APPROXIMATELY 1655. CORONER-DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY DAN BAIRD. ALONG WITH ACTING CORONER SHERIFF JEFF FRANKLIN CLAY COUNTY. ORDERED AUTOPSY FOR BOTH SUBJECTS. PILOT OF HELICOPTER-(RICK C STANFORD. DOB/ [REDACTED] -49. SS# [REDACTED]. BRIDGER MI. 69014 PHONE # [REDACTED]. LINEMAN-(JON D NESMUE. DOB/ [REDACTED] -67. SS# [REDACTED]. BAUDETTE. MN. 66623). SEE AUTOPSY REPORT. SEE CORONER REPORT. BOTH SUBJECTS TRANSPORTED TO DOUGLAS COUNTY MORGUE. 402-444-6817. AUTOPSY PERFORMED BY DR. BLAINE ROOFMAN M.D.. DOUGLAS COUNTY ATTORNEY TOM HAYES [REDACTED] CONTACT PERSON. DECEASED TRANSPORTED TO DOUGLAS COUNTY BY WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME EDGAR 402-224-5315. TRANSPORT OFFICER, DEPUTY TROY STARR.

FROM 1615 TO 1905. R/O ALONG WITH DEPUTY TROY STAR AND OFFICER RICK SCHMIDT COLLECTED EVIDENCE FROM SCENE. RECORDED INTERVIEWS OF WORK CREWS ON SCENE DONE BY DEPUTY TROY STARR AND OFFICER SCHMIDT. AT 1740 SCENE CLEARED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY DAN BAIRD. R/O STAYED AT SCENE TILL RELIEVED BY DEPUTY BRAD HULSE. TILL F.A.A. ARRIVED AT SCENE.

AT 0830 02-20-96. R/O TOOK SCENE BACK OVER TILL F.A.A. ARRIVED TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION OF ACCIDENT. AT 0916 F.A.A.-(FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION. AVIATION SAFETY INSPECTOR-DAN MCKINNEY). ARRIVED AT SCENE. R/O ADVISED INSPECTOR MCKINNEY OF ANY AND ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION R/O HAD ABOUT ACCIDENT SCENE. LATER THAT MORNING-UNKNOWN TIME F.A.A. INSPECTOR RICHARD E JOHNSON INVESTIGATION OF ACCIDENT.

Clay County Sheriff's Department

JEFF FRANKLIN, Sheriff
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Clay Center, Nebraska 68933

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AT 1100 A.M. E.D.T. SHOT OFF BY INSPECTOR MCKINNEY. INSPECTOR MCKINNEY THEN LOADED E.D.T. IN VEHICLE FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION AT HIS OFFICE.

ON 02-20-96 AT (U/N) TIME. U.S.A. NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD-(AIC SAFETY INVESTIGATOR. STEPHEN A. WILSON. [REDACTED] ARRIVED AT SCENE AND TOOK OVER INVESTIGATION. INVESTIGATOR WILSON ALONG WITH INSPECTOR MCKINNEY. AND R/O. SPOKE WITH COLORADO HELICOPTERS. INC. PRESIDENT RON MAGNUS-([REDACTED] . MR. MAGNUS WAS CONTRACTOR FROM IRBY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY TO RICK SANFORD-(SUBCONTRACTOR PILOT OF HELICOPTER). MR. MAGNUS ADVISED THAT HE HAD CONTRACTED RICK SANFORD. AND MR. SANFORDS HELICOPTER TO ASSIST WITH LINE WORK. MR. MAGNUS STATED THAT HE HAD RODE WITH MR. SANFORD ON 2-TOWERS TRAINING MR. SANFORD ON WHAT TO DO. AND HOW TO DO THE WORK. MR. SANFORD STATED THAT THE TOWER WERE THE CRASH TOOK PLACE WAS MR. SANFORD'S FIRST TOWER BY-HIM SELF.

NEXT INTERVIEW DONE WAS OF GARY GORMAN LINE SUPERINTENDENT-(IRBY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY). MR. GORMAN WAS ONE TOWER OVER WORKING WHEN HE OBSERVED THE HELICOPTER CRASH. MR. GORMAN GAVE WRITTEN STATEMENT TO F.A.A. AND IRBY CONSTRUCTION CO. CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TOOK V.H.S. TAPED INTERVIEW AT SCENE OF ACCIDENT. SEE TAPED INTERVIEW.

PICTURES TAKEN OF DAMAGE ON TOWER BY IRBY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY-(SAFETY AND TRAINING DIRECTOR. JAMES F. CHRISTENSEN). MR. CHRISTENSEN CLIMBED TO THE TOP OF THE TOWER. AND PHOTOGRAPHED FROM THE TOWER, DAMAGE TO THE TOWER. ALONG WITH DAMAGE BELOW THE TOWER, FROM THE TOWER VIEW.

INVESTIGATION ENDED AT 1400. FROM 1400 TO 0900 02-21-96. SECURITY OF THE SCENE PROVIDED AT REQUEST OF COMAV MANAGERS INC.-(MIKON W CARLSON. REGIONAL CLAIMS REPRESENTATIVE). AT 0900 02-21-96 MR. CARLSON TOOK OVER SCENE.

ON 02-21-96. AT THE CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT R/O MEET WITH-(U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. OSHA. SAFETY COMPLIANCE OFFICER. DARWIN D. CRAIG. [REDACTED] . MR. CRAIG ADVISED R/O THAT HE WAS OBTAINING STATEMENTS FROM ANY AND ALL INVOLVED WITH INVESTIGATION AND WANTED ANY INFORMATION R/O COULD GIVE-(OSHA).

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SHERIFF JEFF FRANKLIN