

Michigan Department of State Police

ORIGINAL INCIDENT
REPORTORIGINAL DATE
Mon, Aug 14, 2006
TIME RECEIVED
1023INCIDENT NO.
093-0001497-06
FILE CLASS
97001

VICTIM SEATING POSITION IN PLANE:

During the investigation by the FAA, identification was found on three of the victims as follows.

A Wisconsin Drivers License was located on **James G. Wehr**, Right rear passenger.

NAM: JAMES G WEHR

P.O. Box/Building: RT REAR PASSENGER

NBR: [REDACTED] DIR: [REDACTED]

STR: [REDACTED]

SEX: [REDACTED]

CTY: NEW BERLIN

ST: WI

TXH: [REDACTED]

ZIP: 53146

TXW: [REDACTED]

RAC: W

SEX: M

DOB: [REDACTED]

HGT: [REDACTED]

WGT: [REDACTED]

HAI: [REDACTED]

EYE: [REDACTED]

ETH: [REDACTED]

OPS: [REDACTED]

SSN: [REDACTED]

SID: [REDACTED]

FBI: [REDACTED]

MNU: [REDACTED]

PRN: [REDACTED]

The left rear passenger was identified by Wisconsin Operator's License as **Michael Wraalstad**

NAM: MICHAEL GOODWIN WRAALSTAD

P.O. Box/Building: LEFT REAR PASSENGER

NBR: [REDACTED]

STR: [REDACTED]

SEX: [REDACTED]

CTY: DOUSMAN

ST: WI

TXH: [REDACTED]

ZIP: 53118

TXW: [REDACTED]

RAC: [REDACTED]

DIR: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

HGT: [REDACTED]

WGT: [REDACTED]

HAI: [REDACTED]

EYE: [REDACTED]

ETH: [REDACTED]

SEX: M

SSN: [REDACTED]

SID: [REDACTED]

FBI: [REDACTED]

MNU: [REDACTED]

PRN: [REDACTED]

A Wisconsin Driver's License was located on the individual in the left front pilot position, identifying him as **NICHOLAS L. GERGER**.

NAM: NICHOLAS L GERGER

P.O. Box/Building: PILOT, LEFT FRONT SEAT

NBR: [REDACTED]

STR: [REDACTED]

SEX: ROAD

CTY: PEWAUKEE

ST: WI

TXH: [REDACTED]

ZIP: 53072

TXW: [REDACTED]

RAC: [REDACTED]

DIR: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

HGT: [REDACTED]

WGT: [REDACTED]

HAI: [REDACTED]

EYE: [REDACTED]

ETH: [REDACTED]

SEX: M

SSN: [REDACTED]

SID: [REDACTED]

FBI: [REDACTED]

MNU: [REDACTED]

PRN: [REDACTED]

Identification was located on the right copilot position however the identification was destroyed beyond legibility. The right copilot position was later determined to be **Daniel A. Nagy**, by the process of elimination.

NAM: DANIEL A NAGY

P.O. Box/Building: RT FRONT PASS, BUS OWNER

NBR: [REDACTED]

STR: [REDACTED]

SEX: [REDACTED]

CTY: HARTLAND

ST: WI

TXH: [REDACTED]

ZIP: [REDACTED]

TXW: [REDACTED]

RAC: [REDACTED]

DIR: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

HGT: [REDACTED]

WGT: [REDACTED]

HAI: [REDACTED]

EYE: [REDACTED]

ETH: [REDACTED]

SEX: M

SSN: [REDACTED]

SID: [REDACTED]

FBI: [REDACTED]

MNU: [REDACTED]

PRN: [REDACTED]

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Narrative:

DET MARGARET A HERRMANN, [REDACTED]

W06-39754

* * *

On 08/14/06, Det. Wepfer and I were asked to assist the Michigan State Police with regard to notification of people who were presumed dead in a plane crash that occurred in the upper peninsula of Michigan.

I initially made contact with Trooper Dan Rambo who is with the Michigan State Police. Trooper Rambo indicated that the plane went down in his jurisdiction at approximately 9 a.m. on 08/14/06. He indicated that there were no survivors in this plane crash. He further indicated that the plane had been fully-engulfed in flames and they had to wait for the fire to go out before they could obtain numbers off of the plane to determine the originating location of the flight. He indicated that he was able to obtain those numbers and through that information, they were able to obtain the flight plan which originated out of Crites Field. It appeared as though the flight plan had been filed by a person by the name of Nick Gerger. Trooper Rambo asked that we make contact at the Gerger residence to attempt to find out who else was on the plane.

At that point, Det. Wepfer and I went to the Gerger residence located at [REDACTED], which is located in the town of Delafield. When we arrived at that location, no one was home.

We then made contact with the next-door neighbor who informed us that the wife (Caroline) and her children were at Six Flags Great America in Gurney, Illinois. They indicated that the husband (Thomas) works at Baird and believed he worked out of the Brookfield office.

Det. Wepfer and I went to the Baird office located on Stoneridge Drive, in the city of Pewaukee. They informed us that Mr. Gerger actually works out of the Mayfair Road location at [REDACTED], in Wauwatosa.

Det. Wepfer and I then went to the Mayfair Road office and initially met with office personnel who informed us that Mr. Gerger was currently at lunch. When Mr. Gerger returned to the business (at approximately 1 p.m.), Det. Wepfer and I informed him that a plane had gone down in northern Michigan and we believed it was the plane that his son, Nick, was possibly flying. Mr. Gerger confirmed that his son Nick was a flight instructor and had been very excited about a job that he had just gotten in which he was flying three people up to Canada and that this was going to be an overnight trip. We explained to Mr. Gerger that there were no survivors in this plane crash and gave what information we had at that point. He informed us that his wife, Caroline, and their three boys (ages 20 to 15) were currently at Six Flags Great America in Gurney, Illinois. He further indicated that with the assistance of a co-worker at Baird, he would go to Six Flags Great America and attempt to make contact with his wife there as he did not want to do this over the phone.

Det. Wepfer made contact with the local police department and coordinated how Mr. Gerger would be able to meet with the police officers who would assist him in finding his wife at the amusement park.

Mr. Gerger was able to supply us with the name of his son Nick's dentist. He indicated that the dentist's name was Dr. David M. Schlaack located at [REDACTED] in Delafield (Phone number: [REDACTED]).

While talking with Mr. Gerger, I also had telephone contact with Trooper Rambo. I explained that we were making initial contact with the first victim's family. Trooper Rambo informed me that the weather that day had been rainy and there were some winds, but he indicated that he did not know the exact cause of the plane crash. We met with Mr. Gerger for approximately one-half hour and then left his place of business.

Meanwhile, Det. Toole had been at the Crites Field Airport in an attempt to get more information about Nick Gerger. He was able to talk with the owner of the plane that Gerger was flying. (Please see Det. Toole's supplement.) Based on information obtained from Det. Toole, and information I had received from Trooper Rambo, we were able to determine that it was possible that a Dan Nagy was also on the plane. Mr. Nagy is a co-owner of Spancrete located in the Pewaukee area.

Det. Wepfer and I then responded to Spancrete where we met with Det. Toole and a representative from the Human Resources Department - Gary Noel. The company was able to confirm that Mr. Dan Nagy had been on a flight to Canada, along with two other people from the company. At that point, Mr. Noel was still attempting to find out the names of the other two parties from Spancrete. Mr. Noel and Det. Toole then went upstairs to inform Mr. John Nagy (Dan's brother) of what had happened.

Approximately ten minutes later, John Nagy came downstairs and met with Det. Wepfer and myself. We informed him of the information we had received and explained that there could be no positive identification at this point. We further indicated that we were not completely sure who was on the plane and would need assistance with that. He indicated that there were two other people from Spancrete who were on the flight. The first was Michael Wraalstad and the other was James Wehr. He indicated that they were on their way up to Canada to meet with a distributor there. John Nagy further informed us that his brother Dan was already a certified pilot for single-engine planes and was attempting to become certified in a twin-engine plane as well. He indicated that he had been attempting to gain hours of practice to go towards his certification of twin-engine planes. He further indicated that Dan is married and has two children - ages [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. John Nagy indicated to us that he would prefer to tell Dan's wife, Colleen, about what had happened, and asked that we respond with him and he would let us know when we could come inside and talk with Colleen.

At approximately 3 p.m., Det. Wepfer and I responded to the Daniel Nagy residence located at [REDACTED], in Hartland. We sat with John Nagy and Dan's wife, Colleen, and talked to them at length about what we knew. Colleen informed us that Mr. Nagy's dentist is a Dr. Frank Marinelli located at [REDACTED]. Colleen also confirmed the fact that Dan was attempting to become certified for twin-engine planes, and indicated that he loved flying and that Dan essentially told her that she could support him in this or he was going to fly behind her back. Colleen, therefore, felt it was best to support him in his choice to fly.

Colleen indicated that Dan had left the residence at approximately 5:30 a.m. to help Nick Gerger prepare the plane. She indicated that the pre-flight

preparations take approximately one hour. She indicated that based on that, she believed they were going to take off at approximately 6:30 or 7 a.m. on 08/14/06 for a flight to Canada. It should be noted that both Colleen and John indicated that Dan and John's mother, Barb, was going to have a very difficult time with the possibility of Dan's death. They indicated that John and Dan's father had died within the past two years and that had been a very difficult situation for their mother. John indicated that this would just about "kill" his mother. Again, we told Colleen that as of this time we did not have any identification of anyone who was in the plane, although based on information from John Nagy, as well as Mr. Gerger, it appeared as though we had a fairly good idea as to who was on the plane. We explained that is why we needed the dental records for Dan. I provided Colleen and John Nagy with my business card, along with a direct number for the Michigan State Police [REDACTED]. It should be noted that I gave Mr. Gerger that information as well.

Also during the conversation with Colleen and John, they informed me that Mr. Wraalstad, who was on the plane with this group, has a son who is a police officer.

I then made contact with Capt. Ruff and informed her that Mr. Wraalstad has a son who is a police officer for the Town of Summit PD. She informed me that Det. Toole was attempting to make contact with him. I asked that she forward that information to Det. Toole.

After leaving the Nagy residence, Det. Wepfer and I went to the Sheriff's Department. We were informed that Dets. Toole and Voigt were attempting to make contact at the Wraalstad residence and that Dets. Ladwig and Adent were attempting to make contact with the James Wehr family.

Det. Ladwig made contact at the Wehr residence at approximately 4 p.m. He informed me that Mr. Wehr's wife, Janet, was very upset and did not know which dentist James had been seeing. According to Det. Ladwig, James and Janet had been married recently. (See Det. Ladwig's supplement.)

At approximately 5:15 p.m., I was advised by Det. Toole that they were making contact with the Wraalstad family. He also provided me with Mr. Wraalstad's dentist's information (Dr. O'Brien located at [REDACTED], Waukesha, WI and phone of [REDACTED]). Det. Toole also informed me that Michael Wraalstad's son (Brian Wraalstad) asked that we contact McHenry, Illinois and have them notify his sister (Kamara). Det. Ladwig indicated Brian could not call her and tell her this information over the phone as she would be very upset about it. He further indicated that he believed it would be best if at least two officers responded to the location.

At that point, I contacted the McHenry PD and spoke to Sgt. Lundberg (phonetic). I explained the situation to him and informed him that we would be sending a teletype to his department with that request. He indicated that he would take care of the situation and have someone respond to the Kamara Welch residence to inform her of the information we had. Det. Wepfer then wrote up the teletype which was sent at approximately 6:30 or 7 p.m. A copy of the teletype will be attached to this report.

I also sent copies of any paperwork I could find on Dan Nagy, Nicholas Gerger, James Wehr, and Michael Wraalstad. Regarding Michael Wraalstad: I was able to find a WI DL information sheet, as well as a WSD Spillman "Main Names Table" sheet. Regarding James Wehr: I was able to locate a State of Wisconsin

driver's license information sheet; for Nicholas Gerger: I was able a WSD Spillman "Main Names Table" sheet; for Daniel Nagy: I was able to find a WSD Spillman "Main Names Table" sheet. This information was faxed to Trooper Rambo at approximately 5:05 p.m.

At this point, I am awaiting dental information from the Wehr family. I am hoping to obtain that information by Tuesday (08/15/06) so I can provide it to the Michigan State Police.

MAH * rjs

Law Supplemental Narrative:

Supplemental Narratives

Seq Name	Date	Narrative
1 MARTENS GL	12:29:04 08/15/06	
DET. TODD R. LADWIG,	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

* * *

On Monday, 08-14-06 at 4:00 p.m. I, along with Det. Jeffrey Adent of WSD responded to [REDACTED] in New Berlin for the purpose of making contact with JANET WEHR, to do a death notification in regards to her husband, JAMES WEHR, who had been involved in a plane crash earlier on today's date in Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan.

Upon arrival at that residence we were met by a Jennifer Schroeder, whom is the stepdaughter of James Wehr, and the daughter of Janet Wehr. I did inform Jennifer that she would need to contact her mother, Janet and have her mother respond home, due to the fact her stepfather, James Wehr had been involved in an accident. Jennifer Schroeder did contact her mother via the telephone, who did arrive home shortly thereafter at approximately 4:10 p.m.

Det. Adent and I then did meet with Janet Wehr and did inform her of the fact that her husband, James had been involved in an accident on today's date. Janet Wehr did state that her husband, James had left this morning on an airplane out of Waukesha with DANIEL NAGY and a MICHAEL WRAALSTAD, and that they were leaving on business trip for Spancrete and that they were flying to Montreal. We did inform Janet of the fact that the plane that they had left on had been identified by the tail number, and it was a twin engine plane, listing to Spring City Aviation that had crashed in Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan and that the Michigan State Police were investigating the scene, as well as the FAA.

It should be noted that we did inquire if there was anyone we could call or contact for Janet, and subsequently Det. Adent did make calls to her family members, who then did respond to the house as well for her emotional support. In addition we asked of Janet if in fact she would be able to provide us with information regarding James' dentist, due to the fact that Michigan State Police were requesting dental records for positive identification of the individuals involved in the accident. It should be noted that Janet Wehr was very distraught and was unable to provide us with that information at this time, however I did leave with her my business card, as well as the name and number for Det. Margaret Herrmann of WSD, and the number for the Michigan State Police, who would have all information regarding this accident.

Janet Wehr then did request that we notify James' parents DONALD and BARBARA WEHR, who live on Wehr Rd. in New Berlin about this accident as well.

Det. Adent and I did subsequently respond to [REDACTED], which is the Donald and Barbara Wehr residence, where we did meet at 5:00 p.m. with both Donald and Barbara Wehr at their residence, and did notify Donald and Barbara of the fact that their son, James had been involved in a plane accident on today's date. The Wehr's did contact family members, who did arrive at their residence, while myself and Det. Adent were still there for emotional support,

and I did leave with Barbara and Donald Wehr the information for the Michigan State Police Department, as well as the number for Det. Margaret Herrmann of WSD in the event they had additional questions to ask.. I also left with them my business card as well.

It should be noted that I additionally inquired of Donald and Barbara Wehr if they were aware or familiar of their son, James' dentist and who that might be. Neither Donald nor Barbara indicated that they would be aware of that information and stated that they believed all of that information would be in the possession of James' wife, Janet.

At this point in time I have no additional information to add. (gm)

Law Supplemental Narrative:

Seq Name	Date	Supplemental Narratives Narrative
2 MARTENS GL	06:29:09 08/16/06	
DET. MICHAEL T. TOOLE,	[REDACTED]	

* * *

On 08-14-06 I was contacted by Capt. Karen Ruff at 12:00 p.m. in reference to a small twin engine plane that had crashed in the upper peninsula of Michigan. The plane originated its trip from Crites Field in Waukesha. Capt. Ruff asked me if I could please respond to Crites Field in an attempt to ascertain who was on the plane. She advised the Michigan State Police had recovered four bodies on the plane that had crashed in a very remote area.

Upon my arrival at Crites Field I was directed towards Spring City Aviation where I spoke with BRIAN BEHRENS, Cell Phone: [REDACTED]. Behrens was obviously upset about several phone calls he told me that he had received from the FAA in reference to a plane they owned. I asked Behrens if he did own a twin engine plane, to which he stated he did. He stated the Flight Instructor that he worked with, NICK GERGER was the Flight Instructor and had left Crites Field en route to Montreal and the Three Rivers area that morning. I asked Behrens if he knew who else was onboard that plane, and he stated there were four people onboard. The only other person he knew was a DAN NAGY. He stated he knew Nagy from working at Spancrete in Waukesha. He stated that he is sure those two subjects are onboard. Behrens then showed me a picture of the plane in question. It was a brown over white twin engine plane, which he stated held six people. He stated it would have the range to get to Montreal, and bore the Tail #N133BH. Behrens could provide me with no further information in reference to this plane. He did provide me with the number to contact to get the flight itinerary for this plane, that being #1-800-WXBRIEF. He stated they would be able to provide me with the flight itinerary for this plane. He stated that it is not necessary that they provide passenger information, but they may have.

With this information I responded to Spancrete at [REDACTED], Pewaukee, WI. There I asked the receptionist if a DANIEL NAGY worked there, and she stated that he did, and he actually was a co-owner with his brother, JOHN NAGY. I then asked to speak with a Human Resource person or manager in reference to Daniel Nagy. She did have a GARY NOEL respond to the lobby, and we did speak in a Conference Room adjacent to the lobby. I asked Noel if Daniel Nagy was on any sort of business trip, and he indicated that Nagy had flown out that morning for the Montreal area on a business trip to check on some tractor trailers that they had ordered. He stated that they had also taken two sales people with them. He stated that Daniel Nagy is actually a co-worker with this brother, John Nagy of Spancrete. He stated that his brother, John is upstairs at this time. Noel could not provide me with any personal information for Daniel Nagy at that point, and stated that if he went and pulled his personnel file or started asking numerous people would inquire as to why. I did explain to Noel the situation, and he became visibly upset.

I had Dets. Wepfer and Herrmann respond to my location to assist me with the notification and questioning of the brother, John Nagy. Upon their arrival we did all speak with Gary Noel, and it was decided that I would speak with John Nagy and find out if his brother, Daniel was on that plane and who else was

with him.

Myself and Noel did respond to John Nagy's office, where I did ask him about the trip that Daniel Nagy was on. He did state that Daniel was on a plane chartered through Spring City Aviation and was en route to Montreal. He stated that he was traveling with a JAMES WEHR and a MICHAEL WRAALSTAD. Nagy was very upset and was left to compose himself for some time.

He then responded down to the Conference Room where myself, Det. Herrmann and Det. Wepfer asked further questions. He stated that in fact all four subjects had left in that plane for the Montreal area. He stated that he would like some detectives to come with him while he spoke to Daniel Nagy's wife, COLLEEN at the Stoneridge Rd. address.

Det. Wepfer and Det. Herrmann responded with Nagy while I responded back to WSD and picked up Det. Voigt to respond with me to a Pretty Lake Rd. address to meet with a KAREN WRAALSTAD in reference to her husband, Michael. We responded to that location, but were unable to make contact with anyone.

I was then advised that Michael Wraalstad was the father of BRIAN WRAALSTAD, a T/Summit PD officer. I then responded to the Brian Wraalstad address. After a short time I was able to meet with his wife, CHRIS WRAALSTAD and did ask if Michael Wraalstad had been on a plane en route to Canada, to which she responded in the affirmative. She was advised that the plane had crashed up in the UP. Chris Wraalstad was able to make contact with her mother to respond to their residence to take care of their three children. She stated that her husband, Brian was going to be coming home very shortly with their three children. Very shortly thereafter Brian Wraalstad arrived home. His children were watched by his wife while I spoke with Brian on the porch. Brian was advised that the plane carrying his father had crashed up in the upper peninsula. Brian stated he was not going to be able to tell his mother, and asked if we would be able to respond with him to the Pretty Lake Rd. address. I advised Brian, of course I would travel with him to the [REDACTED] address and meet with his mother, Karen in reference to this.

After some time myself and Det. Voigt traveled to [REDACTED] where we met with Karen Wraalstad, and we inquired as to the whereabouts of her husband. She stated he was on a business trip up in the UP. I then advised her that there was a plane crash near Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan and there were no survivors. Karen Wraalstad became visibly shaken and a short time later her son, Brian and daughter-in-law arrived on scene, along with a employee from Spancrete. I advised Karen of the details as I knew them, and did provide her with a phone number for the Michigan State Police to contact. We did leave business cards with everyone involved and asked them to please call me if they could provide any further information.

We also made several calls on behalf on Brian Wraalstad to Chief Race of the T/Summit PD and advised him of the situation per Brian's request. I was able to gather dental information on Michael Wraalstad, being told that he did see DDS Dennis O'Brien at Sunset Dental Clinic in Waukesha. This information was relayed to Det. Herrmann, along with the request from Brian Wraalstad that the McHenry County Sheriff's Department make notification to his sister in McHenry County Illinois. He stated that he was not going to be able to do it, and asked that we have someone respond to her residence to notify her. Det. Herrmann and Det. Wepfer did compose a TTY and sent it to McHenry County. We then cleared the scene.

I did make contact with Det. Ladwig, who had been attempting to make contact

with JANET WEHR on Lawnsdale Dr. in New Berlin in reference to her husband, JAMES, who was also on the plane. Det. Ladwig stated that he was able to make contact and that notification had been made. (gm)