

**CEN12FA534**

**Taylorville IL**

### **MEDICAL FACTUAL**

The following were reviewed by the Chief Medical Officer for the National Transportation Safety Board, Mary Pat McKay, MD, MPH: the autopsy report, toxicology results, investigator's reports, FAA blue ribbon medical file, FAA medical review, and personal medical records related to the pilot's traumatic brain injury in 2005.

According to the FAA blue ribbon medical file, this pilot was first issued an unrestricted third class medical certificate in 1999. In 2001, his certificate became limited by the need to wear corrective lenses. By May, 2005, the pilot reported 715 total flight hours and had a commercial pilot rating. His last medical certificate was issued in the first class on 6/8/2010, limited by the need to wear corrective lenses. At the time, he was 28 years old.

The autopsy report found the cause of death to be multiple injuries as a consequence of a plane crash. Specimens submitted for toxicological evaluation were determined to be unsuitable for evaluation.

Personal medical records reveal the pilot had suffered a traumatic brain injury in September, 2005 as a result of colliding with a truck while bicycling. The head injuries included fracture of the frontal bone and bilateral temporal lobe contusions. The pilot had an initial Glasgow Coma Score of 12 (of a possible 15) but was combative as a result of the brain injury and required several days of a medically induced coma. After about a week in the hospital, he spent more than three weeks in an inpatient rehabilitation unit and several months in outpatient rehabilitation for his brain injury. In addition to balance and endurance problems, while in rehabilitation he had issues with attention, concentration, and executive functioning and the family reported impulsive, sometimes unsafe, behaviors. Three months later, he had not been cleared to drive as a result of his impaired judgment. The available records incompletely document the outcome from the traumatic brain injury as the pilot moved away approximately three months after his injury. No records regarding follow up in-depth neuropsychological testing were identified by the investigation.