

# NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division  
Washington, D.C. 20594

December 10, 2015

## Personal Electronic Device

Specialist's Factual Report  
By Bill Tuccio, Ph.D.

### 1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Lake Worth, Florida  
Date: December 29, 2014  
Aircraft: Robinson R22  
Registration: N771MM  
Operator: Private  
NTSB Number: ERA15FA085

### 2. GROUP

A group was not convened.

### 3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

The National Transportation Safety Board Vehicle Recorder Division received the following personal electronic device (PED):

Device Manufacturer/Model:	<b>Apple iPhone 6+</b>
Serial Number:	<b>Unknown</b>

#### 3.1. Device Description

PEDs are a category of devices comprised primarily of portable computing devices and mobile phones. Portable computing devices are typically capable of internet access, email, still and video photography, messaging services, and can run user-installed applications to perform specific tasks. Depending on the model, mobile phones can perform many of the same tasks as portable computing devices, plus have voice call and text messaging capabilities. PED user and system data is typically stored on non-volatile memory<sup>1</sup> and can be accessed through manufacturer-provided interfaces.

---

<sup>1</sup> Non-volatile memory is semiconductor memory that does not require external power for data retention.

### **3.2. Device Condition**

Upon arrival at the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory, an examination revealed the unit had not sustained any damage and started normally.

### **3.3. Data Description**

This device is capable of storing data in the non-volatile memory. There is an optional security feature that requires a user-password to unlock the device and access functions and stored data.

Power was applied to the device and it was evident that the user-password security feature was enabled. According to the Investigator-in-charge, the password was not obtainable so the device's functions and any stored data were not accessible. Ten passcode attempts were made before the device disabled itself. It is unknown whether there were any stored data pertinent to the event. No further attempts were made to access the data.