

Tupelo Fire Department

**Plane Crash
Extrication Field Notes
██████████ Tupelo, MS
August 17, 2011**

- Fire Fighter, Jerry Parmer broke the right side window to check pulse prior to removal of body.
- Debriefing with Tupelo Fire Dept. Chief Thomas Walker.
- Coroner Caroline Gillentine took photographs before removal of body.
- Fire fighters in full PPE (turnouts, helmet, and gloves) start removal process at 9:33am.
- FF Parmer breaks the left side glass to make entry and cut with sawzall. He made a 2ft cut down below the right side of the window on the fuselage.
- FF Parmer and FF Brown hook up the hydraulic cutters, cutting below the left side of the window.
- FF Parmer removes the rest of the left side window of the fuselage.
- FF Brown hooks up the spreaders to peel back the piece of the fuselage below the window to gain access to the body.
- Fire Marshal Jason Cross and Coroner Gillentine took photographs at this point and Sergeant Al Graves took video.
- FF Brown cuts the A post on the on the left side of the fuselage. Jason Cross and Caroline Gillentine took photographs, Al Graves - video.
- Removal of debris under left front seat. Caroline Gillentine took photos.
- FF Brown cut brace to front pilot's seat.
- Removal of pilot's seat. Photos were taken.
- Left rear seat removed.
- Removal of body at 9:50am.
- Video and photos were taken of the inside after removal of body.
- FF Parmer informed me that after attempting to cut the brace under the pilot's seat they realized it was not attached. Both seats removed were loose prior to removal.
- After removal of body, coroner removed personal items from the body, photographed, placed body in body bag.
- Ambulance arrives on scene for transport of body at 10:10am. Medic 31. Body was placed on stretcher, sheet placed over body, secured to stretcher, placed in ambulance and in route to NMMC ER at 10:14am.
- Tarp was placed over fuselage to preserve evidence.

Fire Marshal Cathy Gault
8-17-11 at 10:24am

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	FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	

Remarks

Engine 6 responded to "An alert 3 near the Tupelo Furniture Market" Upon arrival we saw an aircraft that had collided with a pine tree in the front yard of the house at 783 Coley Rd. As we approached the aircraft, a gentleman told us the aircraft hit his truck as it crossed Coley Rd. coming from the airport. He denied injury. The crew from engine 6 began removing extrication equipment from the apparatus and staging it near the aircraft. At the same time Engine 7 arrived and removed a window from the right side of the fuselage to gain access to the pilot. Rescue 41 also arrived and deployed a dual agent line in case of fire. A left side fuel tank was that had broken away from the aircraft was found to be leaking and was plugged with absorbent materials. No other leaks were found. Once the right side window was removed we observed severe head trauma with exposed brain matter and no signs of life from the pilot. North Ms Medical Center paramedics were on scene at this point and confirmed this was no longer a rescue situation. At this point fire department crews backed away until the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) could be contacted for guidance on how to proceed. Truck 1, who had arrived at 08:21, was also returned to service at this point. Captain Brian Benson of Tupelo Fire Department engine 6, hereafter referred to as 6A, contacted the Tupelo Airport control tower via cell phone and requested the FAA be notified. At 08:37 6A was contacted by an FAA representative and connected to Ralph Hicks of the NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board). 6A advised Mr. Hicks of our findings and requested information on how to proceed. Mr. Hicks advised that investigators would be arriving as soon as possible from Miami, Fla and Olive Branch, Ms. He advised that we should photograph the crash scene and surrounding debris field with emphasis on the cockpit area, instrument panel, and controls. He advised we could extricate the pilots body and document that as well. Captain Jason Cross of the Tupelo Fire Department was charged with these duties and photographed the crash site and surrounding area. Debris found in the road was photographed in place then moved to the side of the road. Everything else was photographed undisturbed. Chief Thomas Walker of the Tupelo Fire Department assumed command and had the Tupelo Police Department remove all non-essential personnel from the area. Fire Department salvage covers and pike poles were constructed as temporary wall to block the view from Coley Rd. Fire Department personnel then used hydraulic extrication equipment to remove a portion of the fuselage from the left side of the aircraft in order to remove the body. A detailed description of the extrication can be obtained from Kathy Gault of the Tupelo Fire Department who provided written documentation of fire department activities at the scene. Once the extrication was complete, a salvage cover was placed over the aircraft. Tupelo Police Department secured the area and will provide security until the wreckage can be removed. All fire department personnel returned to service.

M	Authorization						
	Officer in charge ID	Signature	Position or rank	Assignment	Month	Day	Year
		Brian Benson	Captain	Engine 6	08	17	2011
	Member making report ID	Signature	Position or rank	Assignment	Month	Day	Year
		Brian Benson	Captain	Engine 6	08	17	2011