

WITNESS STATEMENT REGARDING  
LAKE TOWNSHIP PLANE CRASH  
DECEMBER 19, 2008

I, William L. McClelland of [REDACTED], witnessed the airplane crash that occurred at approximately 1800 hrs on today's date. This statement is being prepared in order to assure the facts remain as accurate as possible.

We had just finished dinner and I went out to the patio, behind our house, for a cigarette. The patio faces north and is located approximately 2/5 of a mile south of State Street. I had only been out a few minutes when I heard a loud engine sound from what appeared to be a small aircraft. Having lived here for 35 plus years, I have become aware of the normal sounds generated by planes since we are located approximately 4 air miles east of the Akron/Canton airport.

I could not see anything, but the sound definitely was coming from the north and sounded as though the pilot was trying to accelerate rapidly. Suddenly, I saw 2 bright lights coming almost directly, nose first, toward the ground, engine roaring. I immediately knew it was a plane and, based on the placement of the lights, I would assume it was flying west to east. As it dove, it disappeared behind a tree line and the engine ceased. I was certain it was going to crash and was actually waiting for the sound. However, once again there was a tremendous roar of the engine and I thought it was just the pilot doing a stunt over their house. It was almost instantly after I once again heard the engine that I heard the thud as it hit the ground. Approximately 1 second later, the sky became orange and there was no doubt what had happened.

Since I wasn't absolutely certain of the location, I did not call 911. I knew it was in close proximity to Midway Street and was certain someone in that area would call. Sirens were heard shortly thereafter.

I contact the SCSO and advised them that I was an eyewitness if they needed someone.

Submitted by:

[REDACTED]  
William L. McClelland

12/20/08  
Date

Social Security Number: - [REDACTED]

Ohio Drivers License: - [REDACTED]

Birth Date: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

December 23, 2008

This is a summary of the weather conditions on Friday December 19, 2008. I was flying a Cessna 208B. I departed the Akron Fulton International Airport at 1812 I entered the clouds at about 400 ft. shortly after entering the clouds I started picking up light, mostly clear ice. I continued to pick up ice the entire climb out except when I was between layers from about 4000 to 5000 feet and the tops were 6100 feet. When I leveled off at 8000 feet it was a plus 4c.

If you need anything further please contact me at \_\_\_\_\_  
my cell at \_\_\_\_\_

Michael H Grossmann