



Washington County Sheriff's Office

Purgatory Correctional Facility
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UPDATED - MEDIA RELEASE

01/05/23 - For Immediate Release

SMALL AIRPLANE CRASH NEAR NEW HARMONY. ONE BODY LOCATED

On 01/04/23 around 8:30pm Washington County Dispatch received a call that a lone pilot flying a small-engine aircraft did not land at its destination after taking off earlier in the day around 2:30pm out of St George. The last known GPS location was in a remote area just north of New Harmony and south of the Iron/Washington County border. Washington County and Iron County Sheriff deputies and a helicopter with the Department of Public Safety responded and searched the area, but they were unable to locate a crash site.

On 01/05/23 Deputies, members of the Washington County Search and Rescue Team, and the helicopter with DPS went back out to search the area. A crash site was located in the area of the GPS. Local and federal investigators were notified and responded to the scene and a single body was recovered from the crash site. The identity of the plane and pilot has been identified, but at the request of family, the information will not be released at this time. The investigation is still ongoing.

We are grateful for the successful multi-agency collaboration in locating the crash site and recovering the pilot, including the New Harmony Fire Department for providing the fire station to host the command center for this operation.