

## **NEWS RELEASE**



**Russel Burger, Sheriff  
Lane County Sheriff's Office  
125 East 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97401  
(541) 682-4150 / FAX (541) 682-4522  
Email: sheriffs.office@co.lane.or.us**

**CASE NUMBER: 09-6576**

**DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 08/23/09/ 1630hrs**

**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 08/23/09/ 2030hrs**

**NATURE OF STORY: Airplane Crash**

**LOCATION: 500 Yards North of the Creswell Airport**

**DETAILS: On August 23, 2009, at approximately 430 P.M. the Lane County Sheriff's Office was notified of an airplane crash just north of Hobbs Field Airport in Creswell, Oregon.**

**Responding Deputies learned that a 1961 Pawnee single engine, single seat plane, was towing a glider and had just taken off from the airport. Approximately 500 yards north of the north end of the runway, the glider disconnected from the tow line and was able to glide back to the airport safely. The Pawnee aircraft crashed into the field and erupted into flames. The pilot was pronounced dead at the scene.**

**Local fire departments were notified and responded. The fire spread quickly to the south due to a north to south wind but was contained to approximately 40 acres.**

**The FAA was contacted and will be responding to investigate the crash. They are coming out of Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Washington so there will be a time delay in their arrival.**

**The pilot's name is being withheld until notifications can be made.**

**Prepared by: Lieutenant Randy Smith**