

## NHDOT/Bureau of Aeronautics Fact Sheet on Aircraft Accidents/Incident Response Revised Feb. 2013

### Responsibility of NHDOT

Per RSA 422:7:

*I. The director shall have the power to hold investigations, inquiries and hearings concerning aircraft accidents, aircraft incidents and violations or in connection with any matter relating to aeronautics and is authorized to do so jointly with any agency of the United States.*

*II. The director shall maintain all reports received of aircraft accidents, aircraft incidents and violations as non-public records, not subject to disclosure as a public record, and solely for use in evaluating requests for airport site approval, requests for airport registration, notices regarding hazards to air navigation, and any other purposes relating to aeronautics.*

The NHDOT responsibilities do NOT override or supersede those of the FAA or NTSB. FAA and NTSB notification procedures still apply.

### Responsibility of Aircraft Owners & Operators

Per RSA 422:28:

*IX. For any owner or operator of an aircraft having knowledge of an aircraft accident or aircraft incident to fail to report facts concerning the accident or incident to the department or a law enforcement officer within 7 days of the occurrence of the event, unless incapacitated by death or injury.*

### Notifying Emergency Personnel

If able, anyone involved in, witnessing, or discovering an aircraft accident or incident should call **9-1-1**. The New Hampshire State Police should be notified next at **1-800-525-5555** or **603-271-3636** so that the appropriate aviation agencies will be notified. Provide only the facts as you know them to exist.

If an aircraft accident/incident was recently “discovered” and it has been some time since the aircraft accident/incident, please contact NHDOT/Bureau of Aeronautics at **603-271-2552** to provide them with the facts so that a follow up analysis can take place.

### General Information Requested

The NHDOT/Bureau of Aeronautics will ask the following general questions to try to ascertain the aircraft accident/incident situation. Having this information available will make the process easier.

- time of accident/incident/event
- aircraft tail number
- names and conditions of “souls” on board
- listing of property damage (surrounding property as well as aircraft damage)
- were any NAVAIDs involved
- who alerted the emergency responder to the accident/incident/event
- was there a fire involved
- were there any fuel/oil leaks, and if so, were they stopped and has NHDES been contacted (if necessary)
- has the aircraft battery been disconnected and fuel shut off (if fire is a possibility)
- has the aircraft been moved
- were there any witnesses or witness statements
- were there any photos taken (if possible, of cockpit, instrument panel, levers, and pedals)

### Remember...

Aircraft accidents/incidents are treated as if they are a crime scene. The aircraft should not be removed from the scene until FAA so authorizes, except in circumstances where life-safety is at risk.