



# San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

Subject: Ultra-light Airplane Crash  
Date of Release: 10-17-18  
Time of Release: 3:00 PM  
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Provider of Information (if different): Same

### SYNOPSIS:

At approximately 8:38 AM, the Sheriff's Communications Center received a "911" call stating there was a small aircraft which had crashed at the Ocotillo Wells County Airport in Ocotillo Wells. The reporting party stated there was at least one person injured in the crash. Deputies from the Ranchita Sheriff's Substation responded to the location along with Cal Fire and California State Parks. When the responding personnel arrived at the location they found a single seat "Ultra-Light" aircraft had crashed onto the runway of the airport. The pilot (a 57 year old male) and sole occupant of the aircraft had sustained minor injuries and was eventually transported via air ambulance to Palomar Hospital for treatment. Interviewing the pilot and witnesses revealed the pilot of the ultra-light was performing low altitude maneuvers over the airport when the plane stalled and it fell to the ground from an unknown height. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Transportation Safety Board were contacted and the FAA responded to the scene. The airport was supposed to have been closed at the time of the collision due to recent flooding and the FAA responded to conduct an investigation. The FAA is handling the investigation into this matter.

Call Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477 with information and you will remain anonymous. You may be eligible for up to a \$1,000 reward for information leading to a felony arrest.