

Two Killed in Plane Crash near Topeka Airport

**(KNZA)--A Topeka doctor was among two people killed Monday evening when a small airplane crashed near Topeka's Philip Billard Municipal Airport.**

**The Kansas Highway Patrol says killed in the crash were the pilot, 61-year-old Dr. William Leeds, and his 55-year-old co-pilot, Leawood resident James Bergman.**

**The Patrol says the 1965 Piper PA-30 fixed wing multi-engine airplane was traveling southeast to northwest when the aircraft appeared to miss the runway, striking the ground at a high rate of speed. After impact, the plane turned about 180 degrees, coming to rest in a grass field in between the runway and the taxi road to the airport terminal.**

**Leeds was a doctor with Pulmonary and Sleep Associates in Topeka, which he started in 1998. He did outpatient clinics at the Hiawatha Community Hospital.**

**Federal investigators were expected to help determine what caused the crash, which was reported around 8:15 Monday evening.**

Many Signals Communications