Manatee County Mosquito Control District

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MICHAEL DAUGHERTY, Secretary/ Treasurer

October 16, 2026

The Manatee Mosquito Control District is deeply saddened to confirm the loss of one of our beloved family members, helicopter pilot Isaac (Ike) Moore, in a tragic accident on the evening of 10/15/2026.

Ike, who was a highly experienced helicopter pilot with 25+ years of helicopter flight experience with 10,000 hours of helicopter flight-time was conducting a mosquito control mission in Manatee County as part of ongoing efforts to address the unprecedented mosquito and public health issues in the region when his helicopter collided with an unlit radio tower object and crashed. No injuries were reported to others on the ground.

Ike's family has been notified. Our thoughts and deepest sympathies are with his family, friends and colleagues during this difficult time. We ask that their privacy be respected as we mourn the loss of a valued member of our mosquito control family.

At this time, we have no additional information to share. We are working closely with the appropriate authorities and law enforcement agencies as they respond to the incident and gather additional details. We will provide updates as more information becomes available and is confirmed.

Thank you

Christopher Lesser

Director