



MECKLENBURG COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

700 East Fourth Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

T (704) 336-2543 • F (704) 336-6118

WWW.MECKSHERIFF.COM

GARRY L. MCFADDEN
SHERIFF

TELISA E. WHITE
CHIEF OF DETENTION

CHRISTOPHER O. ALLEN
CHIEF DEPUTY SHERIFF

SHELBY JONES
CHIEF OF STAFF

MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 8, 2025

CONTACT: Bradley Smith

Public Information Manager

Bradley.Smith@mecklenburgcountync.gov

O: (980) 314-5008

Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Escorts Remains of Fallen Flight Attendant

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – On Saturday, February 8, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) had the solemn honor of escorting the remains of Danasia Elder, a dedicated flight attendant aboard American Airlines Flight 5342.

Ms. Elder tragically lost her life when Flight 5342 collided with an Army helicopter over the Potomac River in Washington D.C. Her untimely passing has left a deep void in the hearts of her family, friends, and colleagues, who remember her for her kindness, professionalism, and unwavering dedication to her work. While nothing can ease the sorrow of this loss, we hope that this small gesture of respect and remembrance provides comfort to those who loved and cherished her.

"We regard this as a professional honor and a personal privilege," said Sheriff Garry McFadden. "This moment carries significant personal meaning for our agency in numerous ways, and we are honored to support Ms. Elder's family as they navigate this heartbreaking loss."

###