



**3100 Foothill Road  
Ventura, CA 93003  
Phone (805) 641-4400  
FAX (805) 658-4598**

**Christopher R. Young, M.D.**  
Chief Medical Examiner

**Othon J. Mena, M.D.**  
Assistant Chief Medical Examiner

**Joseph A. Vallone, M.D.**  
Associate Forensic Pathologist

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 6, 2025

## **Ventura County Medical Examiner's Office Confirms Identities in Simi Valley Plane Crash**

Ventura, CA — On May 3, the Ventura County Medical Examiner's Office investigated the deaths of two individuals involved in a plane crash in Simi Valley, California. The victims, a father and son, have been positively identified.

The family's dog, Brody, was also on board the aircraft and died.

Paul Berkovitz

Age: 69

City of residence: Westlake Village

Cause of death: Multiple blunt force injuries

Manner of death: Accident

Matthew J. Berkovitz

Age 36

City of residence: Thousand Oaks

Cause of death: Multiple blunt force injuries

Manner of death: Accident