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# Bird Strike Prompts In-flight Emergency on Cape Air Flight; Passengers Hospitalized After Safe Landing at Cyril E. King Airport

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**The windshield of Cape Air flight KAP8861 was shattered after it struck a bird during the afternoon of Sunday, June 4, 2023. By. VIC**

A Cape Air flight successfully landed at Cyril E. King Airport in St. Thomas following an in-flight bird strike, the V.I. Port Authority has announced. The incident occurred while the plane was en route from the British Virgin Islands Sunday afternoon.

According to VIPA Executive Director Carlton Dowe, Cape Air flight KAP8861 struck a bird north of Water Island just before it was scheduled to land. The incident occurred around 2:53 p.m., prompting immediate assistance upon arrival.

Despite the in-air emergency, the aircraft was able to land safely at Cyril E. King Airport (CEKA) at 2:56 p.m. There were no reports of any mechanical issues as the plane taxied to the terminal gate under its own power, according to the authority.

On the ground, VIPA's Airport Operations and Aircraft Rescue and Firefighter personnel jumped into action. They assisted the five passengers and the pilot on board, ensuring everyone was safely evacuated from the aircraft. Virgin Islands Fire and Emergency Services were also on the scene, aiding with the response.

All passengers of the aircraft were immediately transported to the Schneider Regional Medical Center. Reports confirm that two passengers were injured during the incident. There were no fatalities.

In the aftermath of the incident, VIPA has maintained ongoing communication with Cape Air officials and federal aviation agencies. According to their latest update, the incident did not disrupt the operations at the Cyril E. King Airport, which remained open throughout.

VIPA has expressed its gratitude to all responders who played a crucial role in managing the emergency. They lauded the efforts of the personnel involved, emphasizing that their swift action and dedication helped ensure the safety of all passengers and crew on board Cape Air flight KAP8861.