



Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

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**following up on Cessna 208B Grand Caravan**

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**Mauro, Mason** <Mason.Mauro@governor.iowa.gov>  
To: Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

Wed, Feb 25, 2026 at 4:05 PM

Hi Laura,

It may take us some time to track down questions 2-4. In response to your first question:

Why would the Iowa State Patrol need to purchase a 14-passenger airplane for aerial searches, locating fugitives, providing surveillance, and documenting crime scenes? The Iowa State Patrol's Air Wing already had several aircraft that could be used for those purposes, including a 2020 Cirrus Perception SR-22 (purchased in 2021) modified for "Domestic Airborne Law Enforcement" use?

- **The Department of Public Safety identified a need within its aging fleet for a larger aircraft with more sophisticated equipment and technology to accommodate a broader span of use for law enforcement, and to allow for longer flight distances and the ability to fly during certain weather conditions.**
- **The aircraft is fitted with a high-tech imaging camera to conduct aerial searches for missing persons, locate fugitives, provide surveillance during criminal investigations, and document crime scenes. The aircraft is also used to provide air support during vehicle pursuits with Iowa State Patrol.**
- **Other Iowa State Patrol aircraft have only four seats (including the pilot), and are limited in terms of technology, flight distance and conditions.**

Have a nice evening,  
MM

**Mason Mauro**  
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**From:** Laura Belin <[laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com](mailto:laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 25, 2026 8:50 AM  
**To:** Nahas, Heather [IGOV] <[Heather.Nahas@governor.iowa.gov](mailto:Heather.Nahas@governor.iowa.gov)>; Mauro, Mason <[mason.mauro@governor.iowa.gov](mailto:mason.mauro@governor.iowa.gov)>  
**Subject:** following up on Cessna 208B Grand Caravan

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