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Claire begins walking up the stairs as the secretary finishes.

CLAIRE

Thank you.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE AT DULUTH NEWS-TRIBUNE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Claire approaches the office and sees John Jacobs on the phone. The door is open and he motions her into the room. He is wearing a headset with microphone in front of his mouth. He is typing furiously as he listens on the phone.

JOHN JACOBS

Okay. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Johnson. No, that should do it. Goodbye.

John Jacobs takes off the headset and turns his attention to Claire.

JOHN JACOBS (cont'd)

Hello Claire. This is an unexpected pleasure.

CLAIRE

Have you heard anything new on the Wellstone investigation?

JOHN JACOBS

I thought I was supposed to ask the questions.

Claire smiles, but does not back off.

JOHN JACOBS (cont'd)

Nothing new really. There's no CVR, the engine was running when the plane hit the ground, possibility of pilot fatigue. Anything in particular you're looking for?

CLAIRE

Yes. Do you have any reports, printed or not, of when the F.B.I. agents arrived on the scene and what they did?

JOHN JACOBS

I think I do in my notes somewhere.

John pulls open a drawer on the right side of his desk.

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JOHN JACOBS (cont'd)

I think it was some time around noon, if I remember correctly.

John takes a file out and pages through a few clippings and notes and then pulls out a legal pad and flips through it.

JOHN JACOBS (cont'd)

Here it is. The sheriff said he saw agents out at the site between noon and one. It doesn't give an exact time.

CLAIRE

Did it say what they were doing?

JOHN JACOBS

Not specifically. It says they were ascertaining whether there was any possibility of terrorism. What are you driving at?

CLAIRE

Do you have anything in your notes about where the agents had come from?

John flips to the next page in the pad.

JOHN JACOBS

Yeah. They came from the Minneapolis office.

Claire takes out a small notebook and writes down Minneapolis office, 12-1 P.M., and terrorist threats. She looks contemplative for a moment.

CLAIRE

When was the crash reported?

JOHN JACOBS

What are you getting at Claire?

CLAIRE

Okay, John, do you think it is at all interesting that Wellstone's plane went down at 10:20 in the morning. It wasn't confirmed that it crashed until when, 11:00?

John flips back a few pages.

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JOHN JACOBS

Yes. Shortly after eleven, when the other pilot, the airport manager, checked to see why the plane hadn't landed. He returned to the airport just after eleven o'clock.

CLAIRE

Right. So, how does an F.B.I. team from Minneapolis get to the scene, which is in a swampy, marshy, wooded area, difficult to get to, within one hour of the report?

John looks back over his notes, then writes the same data that Claire has just given him on a new piece of paper.

JOHN JACOBS

That is interesting. Maybe the report of the time they arrived there is inaccurate.

CLAIRE

John, think about this for a moment. You're an F.B.I. agent in Minneapolis. You're doing what you do. At 11:05 you get a call that a Senator's plane has gone down in northern Minnesota. You decide you have to get to the site, to ascertain whether terrorism was involved in the crash. You grab the phone, assemble a team and make reservations to get your plane ready. How long does that take?

JOHN JACOBS

Okay. Conservatively, ten minutes to call the team, no more than five to call the airport.

CLAIRE

Fifteen minutes. That means it's 11:20. Then you have to get to the airport. Where's the field office in Minneapolis?

John rolls his chair sideways and taps his computer. He is on the internet in a few seconds. He types in a search for the F.B.I. office in Minneapolis. He opens the page and finds the address. Then he taps in a page bringing up a map search program. He puts in the two locations: the F.B.I. address and the airport. The page returns with the travel distance.

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