



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Noreen Price
Aviation Accident Investigator
Alaska Regional Office

Date: July 29, 2019
Persons Contacted: Arlene Hooper, passenger
NTSB Accident Number: ANC19LA031, Grant Aviation N9448B

Narrative:

Ms. Hooper was a passenger in the Grant Aviation C208 airplane that experienced an accident at Bethel Airport on July 8, 2019. She was interviewed by telephone. This is a summary of her statements.

Ms. Hooper was seated behind the pilot in row 2 on the left side. She had her 3-year old son seated on her right side. She and her son were injured in the accident.

She and her son boarded the airplane in Tununak (IATA TNK), Alaska. The pilot did make sure everyone's seatbelts were on, but she did not recall any emergency briefs regarding emergency exits or fire.

The next stop was Newtok Airport and she felt the pilot landed very fast, but the airplane stopped in time. The airplane was also very fast when it approached the runway at Bethel Airport. She felt some turbulence, and the airplane felt like it bounced on the runway 2 or so times and then it rolled to the right and she observed the front seat passenger rise up and hit the ceiling and right window.

After the impact, she released her son's seatbelt but had difficulty releasing her own. Smoke started to enter the cabin. The pilot helped her son out while she struggled with her seat belt. She was "slanted" and the weight on the belt made it difficult to release. Eventually she was able to release and egress out the rear cargo door. She was the last passenger out.

Her son is very afraid to get on an airplane. He screams when they talk about it.



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Narrative:

[REDACTED] was a passenger in the Grant Aviation C208 airplane that experienced an accident at Bethel Airport on July 8, 2019. She is a minor and was interviewed by telephone with her parents present. This is a summary of her statements.

[REDACTED] parents stated that their attorney instructed them not to speak with investigators. I assured them that the attorney did not have authority to interfere with federal investigations and that talking with the NTSB is voluntary.

[REDACTED] parents stated they fly about 2 or 3 times a month. When [REDACTED] was asked if she noted anything unusual on the flight that day, she said that the airplane landed too fast, bounced up, then the pilot turned right, then somehow landed on the left side. There was a fire and smoke. She unfastened her seatbelt, opened the door and ran out. The pilot said nothing after the accident.