

Joshua Hendricks interview summary conducted by ASI Brian Boucher

At 1530 on 08-15-2023 ASI Brian Boucher and ASI Tomas Weaver conducted a telephone interview of Joshua Hendricks concerning his observations prior to the aircraft accident of N4481Z.

Mr. Hendricks stated his role was going to be as a passenger flying with Jason Tucker as a paying customer on Mr. Tucker 135 Operating Certificate. Mr. Hendricks stated he and his friend (fatality passenger Nicolas Blace) were utilizing Mr. Tucker's flight services for air transportation to a sheep hunting area. He stated that they both flew with Mr. Tucker the prior week scouting a hunting area in the Dillinger Pass area Near Denali National Park Alaska. Mr. Hendricks stated that it was his understanding that Mr. Tucker had not dropped off hunters in that area before and had contacted other pilots about that area. Mr. Hendricks stated that Mr. Tucker did not appear distracted on the day of the crash. Although Mr. Hendricks has no aviation background, he was asked what he felt about the condition of the aircraft or if anything caught his attention about it that he could recall. Mr. Hendricks stated he had flown on several small aircraft in Alaska and felt Mr. Tucker's aircraft was in good condition. Mr. Hendricks stated he and Mr. Blace had approximately 240 lbs. of gear including their personal weights that were planned to be transported for the flights. When asked. Mr. Hendricks stated that Mr. Tucker did not perform any weight measurement by scale of himself and Mr. Blace along with hunting gear prior to conducting flight operations to the hunting area on the day of the crash. Mr. Hendricks stated that he observed the weather conditions where he was positioned at Donkey Creek Alaska (departure location) to be high cloud cover. Lastly, Mr. Hendricks stated that Mr. Tucker stated if they had a weather preventing flight to the drop off location they discussed delaying until the weather cleared to fly to the drop off point.

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BOUCHER**
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Brian Boucher

Aviation Safety Inspector