



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Michael Hicks

Air Safety Investigator

(GAAID) General Aviation Accident Investigation Division

MAY 13, 2016

NTSB Accident Number: CEN14CA460

Aircraft Registration & Make/Model: N776BC, Aviat Aircraft Inc., Husky, A1B

Accident Location: Steamboat Springs, CO

Accident Date: 01AUG2014 @ 1300 (MDT)

Subject: Record of Conversation with Certificated Flight Instructor – Robert DelValle

Per conversation with the Certificated Flight Instructor (CFI) regarding an aviation accident which he and his student rated pilot were involved, the following is a summation of the telephone conversation between he, and the NTSB Investigator in charge.

After informing the CFI that the investigation was still open and that another NTSB Investigator has been assigned to the case, he stated that he would do his best to recall the events and provided a brief synopsis. The CFI recalled that he and his student, a rated pilot were practicing short takeoffs and landings in open field. The CFI stated that they were practicing short takeoffs and landings. He recalled that on departure the student initiated the takeoff roll, the airplane became airborne and his student attempted to “pop” the flaps. He said that when the student reached down to pop the flaps he applied a downward pressure on the yoke and the airplane struck the ground, as their altitude was maybe a foot above the ground. When the investigator asked the CFI why he did not arrest the pressure which the student inadvertently applied to the yoke, the CFI reported that the pressure was applied so quickly, that the descent and impact occurred instantaneously. The CFI reported that damage was sustained to the both wings, the nose, and to the landing gear. The CFI reported that there were no mechanical failures or anomalies prior to or during the flight that would have prevented normal flight operation.