

Paul Olinger

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3 October 2016

On 1 October 2016 about 1:30PM I witnessed an aircraft accident shortly after the aircraft took off from Jennings Airport, Jennings, LA FAA Identifier 3R7. The aircraft involved in the accident had FAA Registration N-Number N157D.

When I first saw the aircraft, it was already in the air with a very high nose up attitude and no bank. The aircraft maintained this position for a few seconds then the left wing came down abruptly as if the pilot was doing a sharp left hand turn and the nose came down as well. Shortly after that, the right wing came down as the nose pointed more towards the ground when the aircraft impacted the ground. The aircraft came to rest upright, facing approximately 180-degrees from the direction of takeoff.

After the impact, a couple of people rushed to the aircraft and pulled the pilot out of the aircraft and dragged him some distance from the aircraft. I could see what I believe to be fuel pouring out of the aircraft. After a few minutes emergency services showed up and placed the pilot in an ambulance while the fire department doused the aircraft and the surrounding area with water.

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Paul Olinger
Witness