



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Timothy N. Sorensen
Aviation Accident Investigator
Central Region

Date: April 19, 2018
Person Contacted: Amanda Hefner
NTSB Accident Number: CEN18FA140 – Friona, Texas

Narrative:

Ms. Hefner stated that the student pilot purchased the airplane in early 2016. Her husband, an FAA certificated flight instructor and mechanic, worked on the airplane which included re-wiring the electrical system and performing routine maintenance on the brake system. The first flight under the new owner was on April 5, 2017, about one year after the airplane was purchased. The accident flight was the second flight since it was purchased by the student pilot.

Ms. Hefner reported that the accident flight departed “right at sunset.” At 2036, the instructor sent a photo taken from his cellphone apparently before takeoff. The instructor’s sister informed her that the airplane flew over their parents’ house between 2045 and 2050. The house was located about 3 miles north of the departure airstrip. She noted nothing unusual about the overflight.

Ms. Hefner noted that when the pilots did not return, she initially called both of their cellphones with no response. She subsequently checked the airstrip and the hangar/garage area, but the airplane was not there. She ultimately contacted the local authorities to report the flight overdue.

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