



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Central Region - Denver, Colorado

Record of Telephone Conversation

Person Interviewed: James Smith
Subject: – CEN20LA005
Date: 10/9/19

During the telephone conversation Mr. Smith stated the following:

Mr. Smith was the pilot of a Zenith CH701, N701BJ, when it crashed on 10/5/2019 near Garden Ridge, TX. He reported the airplane was fully loaded with fuel. The airplane started normally, and all preflight checks were normal. The airplane reached 10-15 ft above the ground during takeoff when the engine RPM rolled back "opposite of a surge." The pilot pulled the throttle control back to idle and landed straight ahead in an area of brush off the end of the runway. The right main gear and nose gear collapsed, and the fuselage exhibited buckling.

Dan Baker
National Transportation Safety Board
Air Safety Investigator