



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

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Central Region

Date: September 10, 2020
Person Contacted: Dr. Charles Borham – Pilot's Brother
NTSB Accident Number: CEN20LA374 – Walker, Minnesota

Narrative:

Dr. Borham reported that the pilot (his brother) was active and liked to jog. He never drank alcohol to excess, nor did he use illicit drugs. He took Toprol XL for high blood pressure. In the couple weeks prior to the accident, the pilot was "not as quick as usual." He was slow to respond during conversations, slept a lot, and kept saying he had so much to do before he left for a new job but did not know where to start.

Dr. Borham last spoke to his brother the weekend before the accident; they had dinner together on Saturday night. He was going to start the new job the following Tuesday. That Saturday, Dr. Borham spoke to his brother at 1100 when he was done working at the hospital. Dr. Borham told his brother that they could have lunch together. Several hours went by and Dr. Borham did not hear from him. He called his brother about 1600 to ask if he was still coming over, but his brother said he had been sleeping all day. He told Dr. Borham that he would put his clothes in the dryer, pick up his blood pressure medication, and then come over. About an hour later, Dr. Borham texted his brother asking again if he was going to come over. His brother responded he was and ultimately arrived about 1930-2000. When he arrived, his brother sat in his car in the driveway; Dr. Borham had to go out to the car to get him.

During dinner, Dr. Borham tried to have a conversation, but his brother was slow in his responses. Dr. Borham told him that he was "acting weird," like he could not think. His brother responded that he was having a hard time getting his thoughts together. They had planned to finalize some family business, but his brother had forgotten his checkbook. Dr. Borham noted that this was not like him; he had been a police officer and was very meticulous and detail oriented. They stayed up until about 2200 talking when his brother left to drive home.

The next morning, Dr. Borham called his brother at 0900 to meet and finalize some family business as discussed the previous night. When he did not hear back, Dr. Borham went to the house his brother was staying at and found him still in bed. His brother asked Dr. Borham what day it was; he told him that it was Sunday. His brother responded that he was not sure but would probably leave the next day.

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The next day, on Monday, Dr. Borham sent his brother a text at 1300 thinking he was flying to Bemidji to start his new job. His brother responded at 1330 saying he was still at their mom's house but planned to leave that day. A good friend of his brother's then called Dr. Borham and stated he was worried about him. The friend said that Dr. Borham's brother (the pilot) seemed sluggish in his thinking and was saying he was going to leave for an 8-hour flight at 1930. The friend drove to the airport and padlocked the hangar door with a note to call. The friend reportedly told his brother that he was not going to let him takeoff because he did not want him to crash.

The friend agreed to drive Dr. Borham's brother (the pilot) back to the airport the next morning at 0500. When the friend got to the brother's (pilot's) house at 0500, he was dressed but not organized to leave. He kept forgetting things and had to change his flight plan. They finally got to the airport at 0900 and Dr. Borham's brother (the pilot) took off at 0930.

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