

Sauer Aaron

From: Fricker, Brian F (FAA) [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 2, 2021 6:14 AM
To: Sauer Aaron
Subject: FW: N78DW accident

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Pilot's Statement

From: Larry [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 2:02 PM
To: Fricker, Brian F (FAA) [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: N78DW accident

My statement:

On Saturday, August 28 I planned to fly N78DW (thorp T18) from Boerne Stage airport (5C1) to Gillespie County airport (T82). I had a passenger, Ms Karol DeJesus who was going to accompany me on this flight. It was about 1400 when we arrived at the airport

After I pulled the airplane out of the hangar, I started up and taxied over to the self serve fuel pumps. I pumped in about 10 to 15 gallons of 100LL aviation fuel. Next I started up and taxied over to my other hangar and got a quart of oil and put it in the engine. Then my passenger and I strapped in and taxied out to the run up area for runway 17. I performed a magneto and carb heat check with proper results

Takeoff from runway 17 was normal, engine performance appeared normal and acceleration was good. At sufficient altitude I started a right hand crosswind turn. Runway 17 at Boerne is right hand pattern. My intent was to fly a right hand downwind pattern and exit the pattern to the northwest. Almost immediately after my turn, the engine began running rough. I was determined to not do a stall spin so began trading altitude for airspeed. I moved the mixture knob but no change in engine performance. There are no tanks to switch or boost pumps to turn on since there is only one gravity fed fuel tank. I did not look down at the Tachometer as I was looking for a place to land.

The trees were the softest place I could find to bring the airplane down. I landed about midway up a tree and we came to a stop nose down. The canopy was broken and so we climbed over the canopy bow and jumped to the ground. We both had injuries to our right foot and were bleeding profusely. Some people were there within seconds to help us get further away from the airplane.

Larry Neu

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 30, 2021, at 5:11 AM, Larry [REDACTED] wrote:

I'll call tomorrow, Brian.