



Jason Aguilera
Senior Air Safety Investigator
Aviation Safety - Central Region

Date: 7 February 2022

Subject: CEN22LA115

Contact: John Brannen, NTSB

John Brannen was the duty officer who took the initial notification of the airplane accident involving N5145W, a Piper PA-28R-201 that experienced a loss of engine power.

Brannen stated that he spoke to the pilot and noted that the pilot said he and a passenger flew from Colorado to Olathe, Kansas, on a 3.5 hour uneventful flight. They landed, topped off fuel, performed an engine runup before takeoff and on initial climb after takeoff, about 700 ft agl the engine abruptly quit. He attempted to land in a clearing, but the airplane was fast resulting in a floated landing when the airplane collided with trees.

An inspector from the Federal Aviation Administration responded to the accident site and suspected a fuel issue. A sample taken from the truck that fueled the airplane was free of contamination. A visual inspection of the engine did not reveal any preimpact anomalies. The engine was going to be examined further after it was recovered.

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