

Shaun Williams
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Office of Aviation Safety – Central Region

Date: January 4, 2023

Subject: CEN22LA341, N21GF, Passenger Statements

Contact: Tonia Dodd, Senior Litigation Paralegal – McGuire Law Group

On July 16, 2022, about 1620 central daylight time, a Cessna 421B airplane, N21GF, sustained substantial damage when it was involved in an accident near Riverdale, Nebraska. The two pilots and two passengers were uninjured and one passenger sustained minor injuries. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)* Part 91 flight.

After receiving a letter from Mr. Frederick McGuire on August 11, 2022 advising that due to “extreme psychological problems¹,” not to contact his clients directly, I contacted Ms. Dodd to relay a few questions to them on December 28, 2022. The questions related to how the airplane sounded when the engines lost power and any conversations they may have overheard regarding fueling or the operation of the airplane.

Ms. Dodd sent an email shortly after with the following response:

“I spoke with our clients and they state the following:

The engine never quit.

The only conversation regarding fuel was right before the pilot decided to land in Kansas, he stated that he miscalculated the amount of fuel they would need to go all the way so they would stop and refuel in Kansas.

¹ See attached correspondence

Mr. Van Der Merwe stated that on the take off from Kansas airport that they pilot got the plane up to 2600RPMS to get it to take off cause the wind was taking the tail of the plane sideways.

Approximately, 5 minutes before the crash, the pilot said something to his wife, Jayne and her reply was NO MARK you can't do that. They have no idea what was said. After that he stated that the pilot banked the plane really sharp and then they crashed.

Also Mr. Van Der Merwe stated that he has friends that live near by where the plane crashed that stated that they saw Dr. Meyers at the crash site taking stuff off the plane."

END

Law Office of
FREDERICK L. MCGUIRE

INSURANCE AND AVIATION LAW

Liberty, Texas 77575

Telephone: [REDACTED]

• Facsimile: [REDACTED]

Attorney at Law
Frederick L. McGuire

Administrator/Legal Assistant
Trish Ladner
Senior Litigation Paralegal
Tonia Dodd

August 4, 2022

Via First Class Mail
and Facsimile [REDACTED]
Craig Brumley
FAA-FSDO Lincoln NE
[REDACTED]
Lincoln, Nebraska 68524

RE: Date of Accident: 07/16/2022
Clients: Marius Van Der Merwe and Celine Van Der Merwe

Dear Mr. Brumley:

Enclosed is the executed statement of Marius Van Der Merwe regarding the above referenced date.

Sincerely,

Frederick L McGuire
Frederick L McGuire

FLM/td

STATEMENT OF MARIUS VAN DE MERWE

Aircraft Accident on July 16, 2022

My daughter and I had an Allegiant Air flight cancelled in Phoenix on July 15, 2022. A lady by the name of Jayne Meyer, who we knew from Kearney Nebraska, told us her husband was flying down to pick her up. His name is Mark Meyer and he was the pilot of the plane that picked us up.

They agreed to charge us \$350.00 dollars each for my daughter and myself to fly us back to Kearney, Nebraska.

The pilot was going to land on a paved strip that had crop dusters. He made a pass by the runway to see if any crop dusters were working. He then lined up parallel with the runway and started to make turns to the runway. On the final turn the plane slowed and he lost control of the aircraft. It started to spin into the ground very rapidly. The pilot recovered at the last minute from the "spiral." We hit the ground, fearful that it was going to turn over. The impact was very hard and once stopped the co-pilot (his name was Kent) came to the back of the plane, opened the door and ran off.

Jayne Meyer was seriously hurt and in pain. She had an arm injury. My daughter Celine had to help me and Jayne Meyer unbuckle the seat belts. We smelled fuel and we ran from the plane as Jayne Meyer thought the plane would blow up.

The facts stated above are to the best of my knowledge.

Date

7/31/22

Marius Van Der Merwe

Cottonwood, AZ 86326

FAX SCAN RECEIVED
MAIL CHARTSWAMP EMAIL
ON 05-20-04 RH

Law Office of
FREDERICK L. MCGUIRE

INSURANCE AND AVIATION LAW

• Liberty, Texas 77575

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Attorney at Law
Frederick L. McGuire

Administrator/Legal Assistant
Trish Ladner
Senior Litigation Paralegal
Tonia Dodd

August 11, 2022

Via Email
Shaun Williams
Sr. Aviation Accident Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
490 L'enfant Plaza E SW, RM 4704
Washington, District of Columbia 20594

RE: N21GF; NTSB #CEN22LA341

Dear Mr. Williams:

My office needs to know IMMEDIATELY when this plane is released so I can take pictures. This is critical that someone contact my office. Our phones are answered 24/7.

To conclude, my clients, especially the daughter is having extreme psychological problems from the crash. Do not contact her. She knows absolutely nothing about what and how this crash occurred. She is not aviation oriented nor does she fly as a crew member. She has no training in aviation whatsoever.

Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Frederick L McGuire
Frederick L McGuire

FLM/td
Enclosures