

National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety

Washington, DC 20594



CEN23FA016

AIRFRAME EXAMINATION

October 23, 2022

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A. ACCIDENT

Location: Chandler, TX
Date: October 22, 2022
Time: 1430 Local
1930 UTC
Airplane: Vans RV-12

B. AIRFRAME EXAMINATION

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C. SUMMARY

Airframe examination does during the on-scene portion of the investigation.

D. DETAILS OF THE EXAMINATION

1.0 Accident Site

The airplane had impacted shallow water on the bank of Lake Palestine. Due to concerns about the airplane floating from the site, the airplane was being recovered when I arrived on-scene. The airplane had been loaded on a flat bed and was examined.

2.0 Airframe Examination

The entire airplane displayed signatures of rearward crushing. The airplane remained relatively intact. All signatures were consistent with a near vertical impact with terrain.

2.1 Fuselage

The fuselage was heavily damaged with rearward deformation of the cockpit. All cockpit instruments were largely destroyed and not identified in the wreckage.

2.2 Left and Right Wings

Both wings displayed evidence of accordion crushing consistent with a near vertical impact angle. There were signatures of hydraulic deformation of both wing tanks.

2.3 Flight Control

Examination of the ailerons, elevators, and rudder, found no preimpact anomalies. All breaks in the flight controls were consistent with overload. Tracing of the ailerons, elevators, and rudder controls were relatively consistent from the flight control surfaces toward an area of the flight controls.

Submitted by:

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