

John Brannen
Senior ASI
AS-CEN

Date: April 16, 2024

Subject: Accident involving N451MA

Contact: Jared Thompson

Spoke with Mr. Thompson regarding the accident involving N451MA. He informed me that he was a co-owner of the airplane with the accident pilot, Wade Bates. He said that the purpose of the accident flight was for Mr. Bates to fly from KMSN to KSLG, which was a return flight home after Mr. Bates had dropped off Mr. Thompson at KMSN. Mr. Thompson stated that the accident pilot utilized Garmin Pilot software for flight planning purposes. When asked if he was aware how many hours flight experience Mr. Bates had, he said he was not sure but it was definitely over 1000 hours. When asked about the flight to KMSN, he said that it was uneventful and no adverse weather was encountered on the flight to KMSN. When asked in general about Mr. Bates as a pilot, he said he was "a very gifted pilot and very conscientious." He said he took safety very seriously, "to the point of it being a little annoying to Mr. Thompson. I then asked Mr. Thompson if he knew where the airplane maintenance records were or Mr Bates Logbook. He said he would get the maintenance records and get them to me. He said Mr. Bates used an electronic flight log on Garmin Pilot and that he may be able to access it. He asked about coming to the accident site which I told him he could do and to contact me when he wanted to out and I would escort him. We ended the conversation at this point.