

National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety
Central Region



CEN24LA114

RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Michael Reyes, Student Pilot and Airplane Owner

February 13, 2024

Interviewee: Michael Reyes, Student Pilot and Airplane Owner
Date/Time: February 13, 2024 / 1556 CST
Location: Telephone Call
Investigator(s): Andrew Todd Fox, NTSB Air Safety Investigator

Mr. Reyes, who was a student pilot, explained that he just purchased the airplane and was flying it cross-country to his homebase at Hereford Municipal Airport (HRX), Hereford, Texas.

Mr. Reyes stated that the airplane was last fueled (topped-off) at Halliburton Field Airport (DUC), Duncan, Oklahoma. The flight departed on the accident flight with 50 gallons of fuel total, evenly distributed between the two wing fuel tanks.

Mr. Reyes estimated that the flight departed DUC about 19:00 CST. The forced landing occurred about 21:05 central standard time (CST). Mr. Reyes stated that he flew the airplane at 3,500 ft msl during the cross-country flight, and that he switched fuel tanks every 30 minutes during the flight.

While established in cruise flight, the engine began to "bog down" and "lose power". Mr. Reyes "switched fuel tanks", but the engine lost all power. The propeller continued to windmill, but it stopped rotating shortly before the forced landing in an open field. The airplane's left wing collided with a barbed-wire fence at the edge of the field. The accident site was about 31.5 nm from his intended destination (HRX).

After the accident, the pilot called 911 to report the accident.