



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Carrol A. Smith
Senior Air Safety Investigator Eastern Region

Date: February 18, 2012

Person Contacted: Nitin Desai, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Narrative:

Mr. Desai stated he is a private pilot with ratings for airplane single engine land and instrument airplane. He is the registered owner of N118RZ, a Mooney M20. In addition, Mr. Desai stated he holds a third class medical certificate with no restrictions.

Mr. Desai stated on February 17, 2012 he was conducting visual flight rules personal flight from Raleigh Durham International Airport (RDU), Raleigh Durham, North Carolina, to Fayetteville Regional Airport/Grannis Field (FAY), Fayetteville, North Carolina. No flight plan was filed, however a full weather briefing was obtained. A preflight inspection was conducted and no anomalies were noted. He was located in the left front seat and his wife was located in the right front seat. Both of them were wearing seatbelts and shoulder harnesses. They boarded the airplane and he conducted all required checks before starting the airplane out for takeoff. They departed RDU at 1725 and climbed to their cruising altitude and flight followed with air traffic control. Upon reaching the FAY they were descending down and were initially vectored for left traffic to runway 4. The controller changed the downwind to a right traffic following a Gulfstream jet. He completed all before landing checks and was cleared to land. The airplane touched down softly on the main landing gear. The airplane encountered some wake turbulence from the Gulfstream and the nose pitched up high and the airplane lifted off the runway. Mr. Desai added power and the airplane went to the left. He applied right rudder and right aileron and the airplane was in a right bank. The airplane struck a pole on the left side of the fuselage and pushed inward on the pilot's side and the airplane spun

around and came to a stop.. He and his wife had to be removed from the airplane. They were both transported to a local area hospital. His wife was treated and released. Mr. Desai stated he had a broken leg. When asked if he experienced any mechanical problems with the airplane before the accident Mr. Desai stated no.