



## MEMORANDUM OF RECORD

**Shawn Etcher**  
**Air Safety Investigator**  
**Eastern Region Aviation**

**February 13, 2015**

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**Subject:** ERA15LA114 – Telephone Interview with Mr. McFadden

**Persons on Telephone Call:** Mr. Walter McFadden (pilot/owner) and Shawn Etcher (self)

**Time of Telephone Call:** 0926 EST

**Mr. McFadden answered the telephone call and sounded as though he was in pain. He was asked if he would be able to answer a few questions.** He stated he was in a lot of pain and not able to talk.

**Mr. McFadden was informed that when he is able to let this investigator know.** He stated he would.

**-END-**

**UPDATE:**

**February 18, 2015**

**Time of Call:** 1546 EST

**Persons on Call:** Mr. McFadden and Shawn Etcher (self)

**Mr. McFadden was explained that his mechanic had sent an email to this investigator explaining that Mr. McFadden was able to talk and was asked if he was able to answer a few questions.** He stated he was; however, his voice was strained and may not be able to very long.

**Mr. McFadden was asked what happened during the accident sequence, it was understood that Mr. McFadden had declared a medical emergency due to severe back pain; however, it was not understood if there was a problem with the airplane nor what the back pain was.** He stated that he had departed from Lakeland, Florida and was enroute to his home airport. As usual he would fly along the west boundary of the Jacksonville Class B airspace until he was due west of his home airport then turn and fly direct, which would keep him along the northside of the Class B airspace. Shortly after he made the turn to the east, towards his home airport, he had a pain in his right shoulder which was something he has had before. Normally he would get that pain when driving in a car for long periods of time. He readjusted himself in the seat and the pain was tolerable. He further described the pain as someone pushing a pencil into his shoulder. He was about 20 miles from his destination when an intense pain began in his left shoulder. He announced his emergency on the 121.5 guard frequency with no response. He dialed a known Jacksonville frequency for the area and declared an emergency and was responded to immediately. He requested an ambulance to be standing by at the airport upon his arrival due to severe back pain. He attempted to line up for runway 9 however, was unable to do so. He further reported he did not remember much us after that.

**Mr. McFadden was asked if he knew what was causing his back spasm.** He stated that he has this issue when seated for a long car ride, many hours in length. When his back started to spasm in the right shoulder he felt he knew how to deal with it; however, when the pain went into his left shoulder it was very intense and nothing he had experienced in that shoulder in the past. He further stated that his throat was beginning to hurt and would appreciate ending the call.

**Mr. McFadden was thanked for his time and was asked if it was accurate as best he could recall.** He stated the information above was accurate.

**-END-**