



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Brian C. Rayner
Senior Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

August 20, 2018

Subject: ERA17LA336 Winder, Georgia
Name: Mark Ricker – FAA Inspector – Wreckage Exam/Engine Run

Mr. Ricker was the FAA aviation safety inspector assigned to the accident investigation referenced above. He performed the on-scene examination of the airplane, and supervised the detailed examination of the airplane and the test run of the airplane's engine subsequent to the exam.

Mr. Ricker examined the airplane at the accident site, and all major components were accounted for at the scene. Both wings were substantially damaged. The left wing fuel tank was breeched by impact and contained no fuel. The right tank was intact and contained about 8 gallons of fuel. The gascolator was drained, and the first 4 ounces drained were clear water, and the remaining 4 ounces were a mixture of water and fuel.

The carburetor was separated from the engine and was reattached with an adhesive to facilitate an engine operational check. An external fuel tank was then plumbed to the carburetor, and the engine was started on the airframe utilizing the airplane's own battery. The engine started immediately, accelerated smoothly, and ran continuously without interruption. A magneto check was performed satisfactorily, and the engine was shut down utilizing the airplane's engine controls.