



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Eastern Region – Ashburn, Virginia

Record of Conversation

Who: Doug Johnson

When: August 26, 2018

Re: ERA18FA232

Mr. Johnson was interviewed at the accident site in person. He stated that he was a pilot based at the John H. Boylan Airport (5B1). Mr. Johnson was at his home when he heard the airplane depart around 1445-1500 and then return about 20 minutes later to land at 5B1. When Mr. Johnson heard the airplane returning to the airport, he used his binoculars and confirmed the airplane was owned by his friend, Mark Biron, who had the hangar next to him at the airport. Mr. Johnson said the airplane was on the left-downwind leg for runway 32 and was at an altitude about 1,000 ft above ground level (agl). Everything seemed normal and the engine sounded fine. He recalled hearing the pilot "throttle back" as he entered the downwind and the engine sounded smooth.

Mr. Johnson lost sight of the airplane while it was still on the downwind leg of the traffic pattern and it was not until later in the afternoon that he learned the airplane had crashed on airport property.

Mr. Johnson said he had recently spoken to Mr. Biron about his airplane. Mr. Biron said his airplane had "been flying great."

Mr. Johnson described the wind conditions on the day of the accident as a southerly crosswind that was shifting about 10° left and right. He said the wind conditions were such that Mr. Biron could have landed on either runway.

Leah D. Read, Sr. ASI