

INSPECTOR STATEMENT

Meeting: Mr. Charles A. Persky
Date Occurred: February 8, 2018/0930
Location: Lapine, Alabama
Attendees: Mr. Persky, ASI Clay Perkins
Topic: N900L Accident

Interviewed Mr. Persky at the accident site located on Mr. Persky's private airstrip in Lapine, Alabama. Mr. Persky was the previous owner of N900L, having sold it to the pilot involved just before the accident.

Mr. Persky stated that he did not see the accident, he only heard it. Mr. Persky also stated that the new owner had sent a mechanic to prepare the airplane for delivery. The mechanic installed three new tires and inspected/serviced the airplane for the intended flight to Greenville, AL (KPRN) approximately 21nm Southwest of Lapine. The purpose of the flight was to obtain fuel and continue to Mena, Arkansas. The mechanic then asked Mr. Persky to perform a brake and steering check. Mr. Persky stated that the all was normal with the taxi test, but said that he showed the mechanic that the left engine fuel controller was malfunctioning in that the boost pump had to remain on until the engine warmed. Mr. Persky said to overhaul or replace the controller was going to cost six thousand dollars.

Mr. Persky said that he thought the center tank was "close to full", and the outboard tanks had minimum fuel. The airplane had not been flown since 2005. Mr. Persky could not recall when the airplane had been fueled, nor did he see the new owner add any fuel. Mr. Persky said that the mechanic sumped a great deal of fuel prior to the flight.

The salvage recovery crew chief reports that approximately 135 gallons of fresh, clean fuel was recovered from the center tank.

Clay C. Perkins
Aviation Safety Inspector, OPS
AL/NW Florida FSDO, AFG/600/BHM-09