



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Adam Gerhardt
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region, Office of Aviation Safety (ERA)
National Transportation Safety Board

Date: 2/1/2018
Person Contacted: Brandon J. Sax (Flight Instructor)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA18LA074

Narrative:

The following is a summary of a conversation that occurred with the individual named above:

- Mr. Sax reported that to his knowledge, he, nor the student pilot, moved the fuel shutoff valve during flight.
- He reported that the student pilot requested during the flight, that they practice a simulated engine failure. During this procedure, Mr. Sax reported that the student pilot moved the mixture control lever about “75%-80%” toward the cut-off position. The flight instructor reported that the engine did not run rough, and he corrected the students action immediately by moving the lever back to full rich.
- Mr. Sax reported that he instructed the student to recover from the simulated event, and as the student pushed the throttle forward, the engine produced about 1400-1500 rpm, but then would decrease to idle.
- Mr. Sax reported that he took the flight controls and pushed the throttle forward twice, which produced the same prior results. He added that he then pulled the mixture to idle-cut-off, and “turned off the engine.” Next, he “primed the engine” with the electric fuel pump, and could hear the fuel pump, and then “restarted the engine.” The engine would not produce power above 1400-1500 rpm. Mr. Sax then described the subsequent emergency landing on a beach.
- The flight instructor was asked if he discussed simulated engine failures with the student pilot prior to flight, and he reported that they did not discuss it, and did not plan on performing the procedure.