



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

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National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: September 26, 2018
NTSB Case Number: ERA18LA259

Narrative:

Mr. Shrey Chopra was interviewed by telephone. 9/26/18, 0900 EDT.

Mr. Chopra (Shrey) stated that he was a private pilot with instrument rating, working on his commercial. He stated he had around 200 hrs.

Shrey stated on the day of the accident (9/8/18) his route was Ormond, Palatka, and back to Ormond.

Shrey departed 10am and flew to Palatka, he practiced some maneuvers and started his return back to Ormond. About 12 miles east of Palatka airport, at 2,000 ft., the engine started running rough and the airplane was violently shaking. He heard "clanking" in the engine and it "sounded like something was loose in the engine." Shrey saw a field to the right side of the airplane and set up for landing. At 1,000 ft. he tried to apply power to the engine, but the engine started violently shaking again so he reduced the power. At 800 ft. he secured the airplane by turning off the magnetos, shutting the fuel off, and turning the avionics master off. When he was a couple hundred feet above the field, he could see that the crop was higher than he thought, but he could not turn away at this point. He touched down with the main gear first and once the nose gear touched down in the soft ground, the nose gear dug into the ground and the airplane flipped over. He egressed through the door and called 911.