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Subject: Engine findings for N4886B
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On December 18th Inspector Edester and Inspector Lauterborn were sent to inspect aircraft N4886B at Pompano Air Park at Orange Wings Inc. to determine the cause of loss of power resulting in the accident on 17 December 2018. Inspector Lauterborn met with the mechanics working for Orange Wings at the Pilot schools facilities to inspect the aircraft. The mechanics removed the spark plugs from the engine. While removing the plugs it was determined that several of the plugs were fouled. When the number one cylinder lower plug was removed the mechanic showed the inspectors that it was contaminated with oil and the oil was leaking out of the lower cylinder spark plug hole after removal. Inspector Lauterborn had the mechanics remove the rocker cover for cylinder #1. The removal of the rocker cover revealed the exhaust valve for cylinder #1 had failed allowing oil to enter the combustion chamber. Oil in the chamber most likely cause the cylinder to not fire in flight and become dead. It was also determined the cylinder #3 had a severely fouled spark plug possibly causing that cylinder to miss fire. These two findings contributed to the loss of engine power in flight that the flight crew experienced.

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