



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Heidi Kemner
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

October 21, 2019

Subject: ERA20FA014

Who: Andrew Velaoff – [REDACTED]

- He is a flight instructor getting his CFII. He landed just in front of the accident airplane.
- He and his instructor shot approach in last night.
- What I saw, the pilot was having trouble with something on approach. Having difficulty, sounded confused, like stuff was “off.”
- We landed on 32 and pulled off on parallel taxiway. We could see the airplane through the back window. We were watching because we were worried about him.
- My instructor and I were talking, and we were making it through the clouds, we broke out and landed on the runway.
- I saw the airplane come out of the clouds, straight off runway 32.
- No landing lights were on, so I thought “there is something off about this descent.”
- The airplane was super stable, he just descended into the treeline.
- It looked there was no erratic movement, the airplane was straight off centerline, a little to the left of centerline, southwest of centerline. Left from his point of view.
- From my vantage point, and he just stayed stable.
- We had to cut our procedure turn early because air traffic control was trying to get him in.
- When I was on approach, I could only hear what approach was saying to the pilot, but something was wrong.
- They kept talking about him trying to maintain the altitude. Like he was over the altitude and they were telling him just to keep it at that level.
- Unless he didn’t know what he was doing, it sounded like something medically happened.

- I thought, “No landing light?” and he was descending through the clouds.
- On that approach, you pop out and there are no lights, just a dimly lit runway ahead. There is a national park down there, no lights, and very dark.
- After my flight, I walked into the FBO and the family was there.
- He broke out of the clouds; he was stable and visual for about 15 seconds. We saw him straight out the back window.