



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Aaron McCarter
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

October 13, 2020

Subject: Co-pilot Joseph Allen/Son (right seat) Statement (unedited)

My name is Joseph Allen and I was Co-pilot of N8132Q on 10/8/2020. I recently received my multi engine land add on rating and have around 140 hours of total flight time. Upon arriving at the airport I helped unload our rental car then left to return the vehicle. During which time my father, also Joseph Allen and the PIC, performed the Pre-Flight. When I returned to the airport my family and I got in the airplane and buckled my 2 younger children in car seats and my oldest in a booster seat.

For weight and balance we had most of the luggage loaded in the nose of the plane, then passengers seated so the heavier passengers were seated forward. My father was in pilot seat, myself in right seat, my mother Diana Allen sat rear facing on the right side, my wife Angela Allen was also rear facing on the left side, then the my oldest son in 3rd row left seat, younger son 3rd row right seat, then my 2 year old daughter was on the lavatory seat.

Once we were all buckled in our seats my father proceeded to start the plane. When the avionics came on I tuned in the local AWOS and listened for the weather which indicated runway 14 for best wind and VFR conditions. I then tuned in clearance delivery and proceeded to pick up our IFR clearance. Once cleared my father began taxiing us to 14 while I programmed our flight plan into the avionics. My father performed the run up checks where I did not notice any indications of any issues. Once the run up check were complete I again contacted clearance delivery for our release. There were a few planes in the pattern, and we had to wait for a small plane on final to land.

Once the small plane landed and proceeded off the runway I announced myself over the CTAF that we were taking 14 for a North bound departure. My father then taxied to the edge of the runway and lined up with the center line. While taxiing onto the runway I double-checked the trim setting was in the take off position which also gave me a clear view of the pilot side yoke, where I again did not see any indications of any issues or the presence of the control lock.

When we were lined up on the runway my father applied full brakes and then full power to both engines. Once at full RPM he released the brakes and we began our take off roll. Shortly into the take off roll I remember feeling a slight shudder which seemed to be coming from the controls. It only lasted a split second, but was out of the ordinary. As we continued our take off roll I sat in my normal position with my legs crossed and my arms in my lap so I do not obstruct the controls. As we continued down the runway I was looking out of the plane and got a feeling we were picking up

quite a bit of speed and should be rotating. I looked down at the Co pilot airspeed indicator and saw we were passing through blue line. I then looked at my father to see what was going on as we should have already rotated. I remember him saying "████"¹ and then looking down at the control yoke on either side. I believe he was looking for the control lock or anything that was obstructing the controls.

I then looked at the runway, which we were quickly running out of. I grabbed the controls on the Co pilot side and attempted to pull back to rotate the plane, but the elevator was firmly stuck in its position. Upon realizing this I pulled both throttles to idle and applied maximum brakes to abort the take off. I'm estimating we were doing between 120-130knts when I aborted the take off.

Continuing to apply full brakes we ran off the end of the runway and through the grass, where I remember seeing a mound of dirt I knew we were going to hit. In the position I last remember, the right main gear was going to impact this mound more than the left. Upon impacting the mound I believe I hit the dash and was knocked out. When I woke up I remember water coming in the pilot window which I thought I needed to open the emergency exit. As I moved aft I discovered my mother on the floor in the aisleway. I turned the emergency exit handle and attempted to push it open, however it was stuck. I tried kicking with both my legs and it would not open. I then proceeded further aft to the main door and opened it up. Once open someone was already outside and I started handing my children out of the plane. Once we were all out we waited for EMS.

¹ Redacted item is an expletive.