



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Daniel P. Boggs
Air Safety Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: 5/29/2022 1030
Person Interviewed- Thad Golden_witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA22FA243

Narrative:

Mr. Thad Golden was interviewed in person.

Thad stated he that he had just put his airplane away in his hangar and was standing outside when he saw the accident airplane dive down to pick up the tow rope, Thad stated after the pilot picked up the tow rope, he put the airplane in a steep climb and kept going up until the airplane stalled and the left wing rolled over and stalled. The airplane then hit the ground in a almost vertical straight down attitude. Thad stated he was a medical doctor and ran over and tried to help the pilot but he was trapped in the airplane.

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Date: 5/29/2022 1030
Person Interviewed- David Robertson_owner_witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA22FA243

Narrative:

Mr. David Robertson was interviewed in person.

David stated he was outside the company hangar speaking with Bill Philbrick, Mechanic of Barnstormers Flite, when he saw N4421M come down for the banner pick up. David stated that the pilot picked up the banner tow rope and the airplane then climbed at a steep rate of climb. David stated he knew the pilot was going to crash so he turned and started running to his truck before the airplane hit the ground.

David also stated that the pilot was a long term employee and most of his 18,000 hours of flying were in this airplane or type airplane.

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Date: 5/29/2022 1030
Person Interviewed- Bill Philbrick – mechanic/IA-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA22FA243

Narrative:

Mr. Bill Philbrick was interviewed in person.

Bill stated he was outside the company hangar speaking with David Robertson, owner of Barnstormers Flite, when he saw N4421M come down for the banner pick up. Bill stated that the pilot picked up the banner tow rope and the airplane then climbed at a steep rate of climb. Bill stated he was surprised how steep the airplane went and for how long he climbed without lowering the nose of the airplane. Bill stated that the airplane then stalled and the left wing rolled over and the airplane spiraled to the ground and hit in almost a straight down attitude.

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