



MEMORANDUM for RECORD

Ralph E. Hicks
Senior Air Safety Investigator, IIC
Eastern Region Aviation

Date: September 8, 2022

Witness Statement: Philip J Conway, Owner and Builder of N11HC

NTSB Accident Number: ERA22FA399 – Bay City, Wisconsin

- The owner, Mr. Philip Conway, reported that he built the airplane and it was an award winner at Oshkosh. The airplane was in good mechanical condition with no unresolved maintenance issues.
- Purpose of the accident flight: This was an instructional flight to check out a long-time family friend of Mr. Conway (Mr. Ethan Smith) in the airplane. Ethan was a young pilot (20 y.o.) who wanted to build flying time and eventually fly for the airlines. Mr. Conway wanted to put Mr. Smith on his insurance policy and the insurance company requested that Mr. Smith be checked out by a CFI (Mr. Zeman).
- Mr. Zeman had flown in the airplane previously with Mr. Conway (2.0 hours on 9/1/2022); however, this was his only experience in the airplane prior to the accident flight. The accident flight was Mr. Zeman's first flight with Mr. Smith.
- Mr. Zeman's flight with Mr. Conway on 9/1 was uneventful. No problems with the airplane and Mr. Zeman's handling of the airplane was excellent (maneuvers, patterns and landings).
- Mr. Smith had flown as a passenger previously in N11HC with Mr. Conway, about 6-8 times, but not as a pilot logging flight time.
- Mr. Conway fueled the airplane before the accident flight. It was topped with 25 gallons 100LL.