



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

FAA Inspector Statement

Lynn Spencer
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

Date: July 21, 2022

Person Contacted: Inspector Kenneth Lancaster, Birmingham Flight Standards District Office

Contact # [REDACTED]

NTSB Accident Number: ERA22LA323

Narrative:

The following is a summary of a conversation that occurred with the individual named above:

Inspector Lancaster stated that he has the pilot's (Mr. Pixley) statement and will mail it. The airplane had a Volkswagen engine. Mr. Pixley built the airplane and had been flying it since 2013. He had some issues with the engine and had rebuilt it and he was just getting it back to flying the airplane. He had put an hour on the airplane since rebuilding the engine and was just taking it up above the airport to check it out. He felt something dripping on his leg and decided to make an immediate landing. The engine quit while he was coming around and he hit a tree and the airplane impacted the ground. Mr. Pixley suffered a broken collarbone and leg. The airplane's condition inspection was current, and the pilot had completed all the work himself. I inquired if the airplane was equipped with carburetor heat and he indicated that it was, however, things happened so fast that the pilot did not have time to use the carburetor heat. The pilot also indicated that he "took it up before the engine was at operating temperature." The pilot stated that he had flown 3 hours in the past year.