



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Record Of Conversation

Date: October 6, 2022

Who: Chase Smith, CFI (Rick Aviation)

ERA23FA008

In a telephone conversation, Mr. Smith stated that he was a flight instructor for Rick Aviation. On the day of the accident, he was taxiing south on Taxiway Alpha with a student when he observed the accident airplane in a "crazy" nose-high pitch attitude (about 30 degrees nose up) on takeoff. The airplane reached a height of about 200 ft above the ground, when the left wing stalled and dropped. The witness thought the instructor of the accident airplane tried to recover from the stall because the airplane's wings leveled out momentarily before the left wing dropped again, and the airplane hit the ground on its belly. The witness described what he observed as a "power on stall."

Mr. Smith also said that he flew the accident airplane on numerous occasions and never experienced seat slippage on either that airplane or any other Rick Aviation owned/operated airplane. He also stated that he had flown several times that day and the weather was a little bumpy on takeoff/approach and there was a slight crosswind/tailwind.

End

Leah D. Read, Sr. AI