

Joshua Young
Air Safety Investigator
AS-ERA

Date: 2/22/2023

Subject: ERA23LA124, Mechanic Interview

Contact: Jordan Humphrey, A&P Mechanic, Flight Level Avionics

Mr. Humphrey was contacted by phone on February 22, 2023. The following is a summary of the conversation had between Mr. Humphrey and the IIC:

- What work did you all do on the airplane that you can recall?
 - No major maintenance, just a normal condition inspection.
 - Changed some fire sleeves
- The compression seemed low on one of the cylinders, did you do any further investigation?
 - Talked with the pilot and the pilot had the intention of having the engine overhauled soon and a borescope inspection found no abnormalities
- Were there any significant maintenance issues with the airplane you can remember?
 - The pilot thought there was an oil leak somewhere so the mechanic ran the engine at ~1500 RPM for about 35 minutes and was unable to find any sign of oil leakage
- Did you check the timing on the magnetos?

- Yes, the timing was verified to be within tolerance
- Mechanic heard the airplane takeoff and it was "snapping and popping, running really rough"
- When the pilot pushed the nose over and began the left turn the power came back and the engine sounded crisp and great and was "wide open"
- Sounded like some sort of fuel blockage similar to water contamination he had heard before

Joshua Young
Air Safety Investigator
AS-ERA

Date: 2/7/2023

Subject: ERA23LA124, Witness Interview

Contact: Cody Mackey, Shop Manager, Flight Level Avionics

Cody was contacted by phone and the following is a summary of the conversation had between the IIC and mechanic.

- Did you all do any work on the airplane?
 - No, Jordan Humphrey is the mechanic who did the inspection.
- Were you the regular maintenance provider?
 - No, this was the first time he had seen the airplane in about 5 years
 - The pilot was based in Baker, FL at Sky Ranch
- What did you hear or see?
 - Heard the engine backfiring, then silence then the engine came back alive at what sounded like full throttle, then impact
- The airplane had a remote oil filter installed
- They had removed and checked the oil filter
- The pilot had reported an oil leak so they ran the engine for about 1 hour and could not find any leak

- Appeared there was oil spilled in a lip of the firewall that was leaking out and appearing to be an oil leak to the pilot
- Airplane had 1 electronic magneto and 1 standard magneto
- Airplane had been sitting on the ramp tied down for about a week and a half and there had been some strong rainstorms while the airplane was on the ramp
- Pilot complained that water had leaked into the cockpit and the seats were wet.