



## **MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD**

**Todd Gunther**  
**Air Safety Investigator**  
**Eastern Region**

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**Date: March 3, 2023**  
**Subject: Information Provided by Len Denardo (Flight Instructor)**  
**NTSB Case Number: ERA23LA134**

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According to Mr. Denardo, The accident happened on their 5<sup>th</sup> landing, and it was a total surprise.

In total, it happened in less than 25 seconds. “The airplane just suddenly and totally turned to the right.”



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**Date: March 3, 2023**  
**Subject: Information Provided by Robert Downey (Pilot)**  
**NTSB Case Number: ERA23LA134**

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According to Mr. Downey, he had about 650 hours total time with a lot of it in Cessna 182s.

The Fort Myers Flying Club which he was a member of required that for currency purposes that if you had not flown in 60 days, you had to fly with an authorized club flight instructor.

On the day of the accident when they left Fort Myers, the wind was about 260 degrees at 15 knots. When they arrived at La Belle Municipal Airport they started doing pattern work on runway 32.

They did four landings, and on the fifth landing the accident occurred. The first three landings were touch and go landings, The next landing was a full stop, and the last landing was also supposed to be a full stop.

There was turbulence at the threshold of the runway each time.

On the landing rollout on the fifth landing, the airplane suddenly turned right and went off the right side of the runway and hit a drainage ditch. There was extensive damage and there was a skid mark on the runway from the right wheel.

When they recovered the airplane and were towing it, the right wheel kept bouncing and smoking which caused the fire department to use water to cool the right brake.