



Adam M. Gerhardt
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Office of Aviation Safety, Eastern Region

Date: September 24, 2024

Subject: NTSB# ERA24FA391

Contact: CONNOR SIMS (Witness)

The individual noted above provided the following information during a telephone conversation with the National Transportation Safety Board investigator-in-charge to this investigation.

- He was located on the water kayaking, near where the Harpath River and the Cumberland River join each other. He said he was near the mouth of the Harpath.
- He observed the accident airplane performing aerobatic flight at low altitude. The airplane was doing "twists" and going "straight up" and doing "nose dives." The airplane appeared to be flying primarily over the river. During the maneuvers the engine would get quiet and then it would "come back" and "rev back up."
- He took five videos of the airplane flying. He explained that the video that was about 1:53 mins long was the video that captured the last moments of flight. About the time he stopped recording, he heard the sound of the airplane's impact with the water. He was unsure of whether the airplane had crashed and hoped that the airplane had landed back at the airport. He later saw firefighters on the water, and they informed him the airplane had crashed.
- He described that the weather was a nice day. The wind was calm, or just a "slight breeze."

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