

Ralph E. Hicks
Senior Air Safety Investigator
AS-ERA

Date: 12/9/2023, 1551 EST

Subject: ERA24LA060, Conversation with Brandon Waters, Pilot of N5952T

Mr. Waters called the NTSB ROC to report the accident of 12/8/2023. Ralph Hicks (ERA) and Ryan Enders (ERA) were patched in to take the call from Mr. Waters.

Below is a summary of the call:

Mr. Waters stated that he and a passenger were flying around, low over the river, and during a turn the left wing hit the water and "pulled the plane into the river." They were flying too low. This occurred about 11:00 am on 12/8/2023.

They departed from St. Elmo, Alabama (2R5) about 9:00 am. When asked if he flew around St. Elmo airport before departing the area, he stated, "Not much."

Mr. Waters stated that there were no mechanical issues with the airplane.

He and his passenger were not injured.

He stated that they were picked up out of the river by a boater and they went to a gas station. He was then apprehended by law enforcement for the day.

His email address is [REDACTED]. He stated that he was the owner of N5952T and there was insurance on the airplane. He did not have the insurance details, but would call back on Monday with the information.

End of interview.