

Joshua Young
Air Safety Investigator
AS-ERA

Date: 8/5/2025
Subject: ERA25FA201, FHP Witness Interview
Contact: Amelia Arline, Witness

Ms. Arline was interviewed by Florida Highway Patrol and the audio/video of the recording was provided to the NTSB IIC. The following is a summary of that audio/video:

- She was driving northbound on Blackrock Rd in Yulee, FL
- She made a movement with her hand indicating that the airplane was in a steep left bank and was “diving”
- Plane was flying low but not too low, “in the treetops”
- She then went on to indicate that when she first saw the airplane it was wings level before entering the steep left bank and dive.
- She did not see any smoke or any issues with the airplane.
- It was raining, “not a hard pour” at the time of the accident
 - It had been raining for about 8 minutes prior to the accident
- She reported that the clouds made it seem dark almost like nighttime.
- Reported that the airplane was white and that the wheels were not out.

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Contact: Robert Kozakoff, Witness

Mr. Kozakoff was interviewed by Florida Highway Patrol and the audio of the recording was provided to the NTSB IIC. The following is a summary of that audio:

- He is the Operation Manager for Fernandina Beach Airport.
- He knows both the pilot and the pilot's spouse, as they are associated with the EAA club at the airport, they were also on the wait list for a hangar at Fernandina Beach Airport.
- They had been members at the club for "a couple years"
- He reported that he had not heard anything bad about the pilot's skills and that he had flown in and out of the accident airport for at least the last couple of years.
- He did not speak with the pilot the day of the accident.
- The pilot's spouse had been dropped off earlier in the day at Fernandina Beach Airport with their 2 dogs and she had approached him in his office about 0945 to report that the pilot was overdue.
- The pilots spouse reported to him that they had driven to breakfast and the pilot dropped her, their dogs, and some baggage off at Fernandina Beach Airport, then the pilot would go back to get the airplane and fly it

from Nassau Airport to Fernandina Beach Airport to obtain fuel and wait for weather to clear before departing for Tennessee.

- He reported that there was weather moving into the area.
- When the pilot's spouse reported the pilot overdue he called the local sheriff's office to obtain information when he was informed that there had been an incident.
- He reported that the pilot's spouse reported to him that there were no mechanical issues that she knew of.

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Contact: Cameron Williams, Witness

Mr. Williams was interviewed by Florida Highway Patrol and the audio of the recording was provided to the NTSB IIC. The following is a summary of that audio:

- He caught the airplane out of the corner of his eye which drew his attention to the airplane.
- The airplane wings were moving "back and forth"
- The airplane had a "descent angle as far as going up"
- The airplane's left wing dropped, and it made a left hand turn, went behind trees and then a fireball was observed.
- The airplane was taking off.
- It was starting to sprinkle, and the clouds were getting "real" low, limiting visibility. When asked about the winds he stated "the palm trees were not moving much"
- When asked to further describe the wing movement he said, they were going back and forth and clarified that they were going "up and down" and that it seemed the pilot "wasn't able to hold it stable"
- He stated "It didn't start raining real real hard until after the crash"