

Statement by Evan Peele regarding landing event on October 11, 2024

As a CFI with Kentucky Flight Training Center, I was scheduled to fly with private pilot Jessica Deis on 10/11/24 for a check out in PA28-N5006W. On that day Jessica performed a pre-flight inspection of the airplane while I finished up with another student. I then performed my own walk around of the aircraft, including verification that the fuel was at the tabs (approx. 36 gallons). We both got into the aircraft, with Jessica in the left seat, and did a normal check list review, start up, taxi and run up without any issues. We took off and proceeded to the practice area where Jessica performed various flight maneuvers. We then headed back towards Bowman to do some pattern work. We contacted ATC and were cleared and directed to fly to the Ford Truck Plant (a known VFR landmark which is basically a 10-mile final to runway 24). Upon arriving at the Ford Truck Plan we began our pre-landing checklist, including switching fuel tanks with the aux pumps turned on. During this time all engine gauges were in the green. At approximately 3 miles out Jessica said "Hey we don't have any throttle". I immediately took over the controls, verified that the engine was not producing power. I began simultaneously pitching for best glide while troubleshooting. I made a mayday call to tower and was cleared for runway 24, but it was evident we wouldn't make it and I didn't respond. Instead, I focused on finding a place to land. I saw a strip of grass next to a road and aimed for that. I maneuvered as best I could but the left wing struck a pole and spun us into the road where we struck a vehicle and came to a stop. As a result of the crash, I was thrown from the aircraft. First responders were on site quickly, got us away from the wreckage, attended to our injuries and transported us to the hospital.