



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Daniel Boggs
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: 5/12/2025
Subject: passenger (mechanic) statement Scott Reilly
NTSB Case Number: ERA25LA198

Mr. Scott Reilly was interviewed by telephone.

Mr. Reilly stated that he was the mechanic for N499BW for the last several years since Terrance Gallagher purchased the DA40. He stated that he had completed the annual inspection a couple weeks before the accident. He stated that on the day of the accident, the pilot came up to him and asked if he could look at the gearbox oil level because it looked like it had dropped down a little since the inspection. Mr. Reilly looked at the engine and noticed some oil on the drain plug and thought the gasket may have torn or was cut during the oil change. He removed the drain plug and replaced the gasket with a new one. Afterwards he cleaned the engine off and the pilot ran the engine and then shut down to inspect for oil leaks. No leaks were noted so he put the cowlings back on and the pilot asked Mr. Reilly to go with him for a short flight to check out the engine and warm it up. They departed runway 21 at TTA and were going to do one touch and go landing and then come back for a full stop landing. They circled around to perform a touch and go landing on runway 21 but before landing the pilot decided to do a "go around" and leveled off the airplane above the runway. As they were flying down the runway, the engine "popped" like a "backfire" and the pilot tried to land on the remaining runway. They were going too fast and did not have enough runway length left. The pilot bounced the airplane twice and said they were going to go around. The pilot applied power, and Mr. Reilly heard the engine rpm increase. Then the pilot turned the airplane left and they "fell" and impacted the ground. He does not recall anything after that.

Daniel Boggs