



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Michael J. Hodges
Air Safety Investigator
General Aviation Accident Investigation Division (AS-20)

Date: April 23, 2015
Person Contacted: Mr. Mark Smith (Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: GAA15CA047

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by Mr. Smith in a telephone conversation.

- The accident occurred on 4/22/2015 at 0950 EDT.
- The airplane was a Piper PA-16, N5616H.
- Mr. Smith was the pilot who was going to fly from Airnautique, Inc. Airport (0GA2) to Newberry County Airport (EOE) for the airplane's annual maintenance inspection. Mr. Smith's stepfather, Mr. Malcolm Barksdale, was the sole passenger. A VFR flight plan was filed, but not activated.
- Mr. Smith made a runway 26 departure. This departure was uphill, into the wind, and based upon visual observation of wind indicators at the time of departure.
- Mr. Smith stated while about 700 feet down the runway, the airplane started to get light on the wheels, and began drifting to the left. Mr. Smith reported that he input right aileron and right rudder and the left wing made contact with some tree branches.
- Mr. Smith stated that the landing gear made contact with a pile of dirt along the left side of the runway. Mr. Smith stated that the airplane yawed to the left, the landing gear collapsed, and the plane came to a stop on the left edge of the runway.
- Mr. Smith and Mr. Barksdale sustained minor injuries.
- Mr. Smith stated that the airplane sustained a bent firewall, collapsed landing gear, bent left wing struts, bent propeller, and damage to the tips of both wings.
- The pilot verified that there were no pre-impact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation.