

Daniel Gifford

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FAA Certificate: [REDACTED]

Meter: 160 9914 120V180 100

CLR to 12000'

T/O 33/18

29.92 DA 3700

Statement:

private pilot

I am a glider pilot with a glider rating. I have not flown gliders since 1987, and decided to start flying again with the San Antonio Soaring Association in Boerne TX. I began flight instruction with Terry Slawinski on June 6th. Today, June 15th, was my second day of instruction with Terry. The accident occurred during our second pattern landing. I was pilot in command on both flights. The second flight, we ~~were~~ ~~towed~~ began takeoff on runway 17. Takeoff & tow were normal behind the towplane. I released from tow @ 2600', west of the airport approximately 1 mile. We experienced ~~strong~~ strong lift & sink while off tow, typical for a June day. I entered the 45° to downwind IP @ 950' AGL, announcing my intentions to Boerne Stage Traffic. ~~As~~ I turned to downwind, and announced my intentions to Boerne Stage Traffic. The tow plane was already in the traffic pattern, and we appeared well spaced. I was following instructions to fly 52 knots, and maintain a negative 4-5 knots