

Jordan Collins

Official NTSB Statement:

On the morning of February 28, 2018, I began a flight lesson with my student Joshua Spengler in a Piper Arrow II PA28R-200. We departed Walla Walla Regional airport at approximately 7:30 in the morning. Headed South of the airfield, we began rehearsing commercial maneuvers at various altitudes from 10-15 NM miles South to Southeast of the airfield. Our 7-9 AM slot was ending so we both decided to do some sightseeing on the way back to Walla Walla Regional in the Blue Mountains. We began the sightseeing by flying up a ravine and making our way East of Walla Walla and then made a left turn up a steeper valley. After a couple moments, I realized that the terrain at the end was looking very steep and at that point, I made the decision that we did not have enough room to turn around. At this moment, I took over the controls and added full power to try to out-climb the terrain. As I realized we were not going to clear the trees, I continued to pull the nose up with full throttle and noticed the stall warning right before we started clipping the tops of the trees. The plane came to rest belly down, with the right wing and tail wrapped around trees. Both of us were able to escape through the left window that had been broken. The plane came to rest about 15 NM SE of the Walla Walla Regional airport.