



## **NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**

Office of Aviation Safety  
Western Pacific Region

Nov 3, 2016

# **AIRFRAME EXAMINATION**

**WPR16FA183**

## **A. ACCIDENT**

Location: Gilbert, Arizona  
Date: September 17, 2016  
Aircraft: Cessna 182P, N20844, Serial #: 182261251  
NTSB IIC: Albert Nixon

## **B. EXAMINATION PARTICIPANTS:**

Albert Nixon  
Aviation Accident Investigator  
National Transportation Safety Board  
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## **C. SUMMARY**

Examination of the recovered airframe was conducted on November 3, 2016 at the facilities of Air Transport, in Phoenix, Arizona.

## **D. DETAILS OF THE INVESTIGATION**

### **1.0 Airframe Examination**

Examination of the airplane revealed that the remnants of the interior structure of the left wing, where the fuel tank was located, showed no outward buckling or other similar damage. Portions of upper and lower left wing skins and the entire left main fuel tank were destroyed by thermal damage.

Examination of the left main landing gear arm revealed holes with wires that ran from the pyrotechnic box along the gear leg, under the gear leg fairing, through a hole in the landing gear bulkhead, and then through a hole drilled in the cabin floor inspection plate, into the cabin.

The aluminum metal pieces and attachment hardware that were located near the drop zone were examined and subsequently shipped to the NTSB Materials Laboratory for further examination.



**Figure 1:** Interior of left wing where left main fuel tank was located.



**Figure 2:** Wire coming through a hole drilled in a cabin floor inspection plate, into the cabin.



**Figure 3:** Wire running through a hole in the left landing gear bulkhead.

Submitted by: Albert Nixon