

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: witness statement - Port Townshend airport
Date: Thursday, October 5, 2017 4:15:48 PM

Mike,

I was given a note from a colleague in the FSDO that a young pilot called the FSDO and said she may have had communications with the pilot of N9549W just prior to the crash. I tried calling her and left a voice mail for a return call. Yesterday afternoon (Oct 4) she called me and I got Chris Melchior in on the call so he could ask any relevant pilot/operations questions.

[Chris correct anything if needed.]

Here is her name and phone number:

Maria J Morrison, [REDACTED], She lives in Port Townshend.
Priv Pilot # [REDACTED]

This is my recollection of her statement:

I was coming home from Friday Harbor (San Juan Islands) to Port Townshend with 3 pax. It was approx. 9:30 PM as I came across the shoreline to enter the pattern and land on 090. The winds were calm. I called my position and got a reply from another aircraft in the area. He said he was out 5 miles landing 270 Jefferson County. He asked where I was. The communications were somewhat unusual – his radio manner seemed a bit uncertain. I saw the aircraft and I was thinking that he is way too high for his intended landing. I believe he was at or above 1500 feet for a 1000 foot pattern altitude.

His call sign was also difficult to understand. I believe it was Cherokee or Cessna but certainly the name started with a "C".

I proceeded to my landing. Our hangar faces the runway. Even as I put the aircraft in the hangar I never saw him land.

Later we found out that an airplane crashed south of here and my dad contacted the FSDO to let them know that I may have had contact prior to the accident.

I am a private pilot in high school, 12th grade this year, and am a volunteer at the Museum at the Port Townshend. I teach a ground school there for young people interested in aviation.

If you have any more question you can catch me at the above telephone number when I am not in school.

Rod Ziegler, PMI
SEA FSDO/ATS CMU
[REDACTED]