



RECORD OF COMMUNICATION

Michael Huhn
Air Safety Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: November 21, 2017
Person Contacted: Mr. Thomas Fite
NTSB Accident Number: WPR18FA035

Narrative:

The following is a verbatim extract of an email that Mr. Fite sent to the NTSB on November 20 2017.

Mr. Fite is a CFI at Barnes Aviation at William J Fox Field in Lancaster, CA

N24987 Accident Notes 11-19-2017

At about 3:22pm on Sunday 11-19-2017, I answered the door at Barnes Aviation to Shawn Kaveney and Mr Javier. Shawn had headed out already but came back with Mr Javier and asked if N24987 was in the hangar. I called Cindy, a Barnes employee, to confirm that Mr Javier had reserved N24987 and that I should pull it out of the hangar for him.

At about 3:30pm, I opened the hangar at Barnes Aviation to tow N24987 outside for Mr Javier.

Mr Javier and I chatted as I pulled N24987 out of the hanger, he introduced himself and asked my name. He called himself "Kel".

I asked Mr Javier where he was headed, he said "to Rosamond then maybe up North for a little while." I told him to have a great flight.

At about 3:35pm, Mr Javier started his preflight inspection/walk around.

At about 3:45pm, Mr Javier started the engine on N24987.

At about 3:55pm, Mr Javier took off runway 6 at KWJF.

I was remember these times because I was doing a ground briefing with Sarah Barnes, my student, in the downstairs lobby of Barnes Aviation and could see the plane because I pulled it out right beside the building. I witnessed his pre-flight from my vantage point inside.

I noticed when I finished my last lesson of the night at about 6:35pm, Mr Javier's truck was still at Barnes Aviation.

I received a call from a fellow instructor at 7:36pm asking if I had heard about a plane down in Tehachapi that could possibly be one of Barnes'.