

Fabian Salazar
Air Safety Investigator
AS-WPR

Date: May 27, 2021

Subject: WPR21LA200; Airplane Accident

Contact: John Burg, Director of Maintenance (DoM), Jones Aviation

Mr. Burg travelled to the accident site and reported that he and Gerald Jones examined the fuel system of the airplane and observed the center tank to be empty of fuel. When asked about the fuel tank system of the airplane, he explained that the two wing tanks drain into the center tank, and then the center tank provides fuel to the engine. He further explained that they checked the fuel gauge in the cockpit, and it revealed that the center tank to be half full. When the float of the center tank was manipulated, the fuel gauge in the cockpit moved but not in a manner coincident with the placement of the float. He explained that the fuel gauge may have been reporting false quantities of fuel.

On May 13, 2021, I contacted the DoM and he updated me on the progress of the airplane being recovered. He attempted to drain any fuel remaining in the airplane. He said that he used a 1 inch diameter by 8-ft nylon tube and there was just enough fuel to fill the tube. He said that the fuel system was not compromised, and the fuel filter was bent underneath the wreckage, but it had not been compromised.

He stated that he took a video to show that the fuel selector switch was in the “on” position.