



Stephen Stein
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
AS-WPR

Date: September 23, 2023

Subject: WPR23FA351 - Interview

Contact: Dary Finck - Witness

Mr. Finck reported that he observed the pilot pull the airplane out of his hangar and then begin practice runs on the field. He lifted off the ground once and returned to the ground. The second time he departed the field turned right in a steep bank and nearly missed the trees. He noted that the airplane seemed uncontrolled during takeoff and bounced hard multiple times before lifting off the ground. The airplane looked like it was going to dive towards the runway just before the wing separated.



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Contact: James Colby - Witness

Mr. Colby stated that he observed the pilot with one hand on a structural tube like he was hanging on during the takeoff. He also noted that the pilot had a surprised look on his face. The airplane then lifted off the ground, turned to the right and flew over hangars and then trees. The pilot did not seem to have good yaw or lateral control as he departed. The engine sound was smooth and continuous at the time.