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AS-WPR

**Date:** November 20, 2023

**Subject:** WPR23LA272, Wreckage Examination Observations

**Contact:** Carey Atnip, Inspector, Federal Aviation Administration

Mr. Atnip provided the following observations regarding his examinations of the accident airplane, N196G.

08/28/2023 - Myself and another Inspector from the Las FSDO performed the aircraft exam at the hangar that the aircraft owner rents. [We could] not find any physical abnormalities that would have led the engine to stop running. Per direction from the NTSB, the owner would continue to disassemble the aircraft and set a later date to continue the exam.

10/08/2023 - I went back to the hangar to continue the exam once the owner had the aircraft opened for a more through exam of the fuel system. The owner filled the aux fuel tank with water and had disconnected the firewall fuel line from the fuel/air control unit and capped the line. The owner turned on the fuel boost pump which [seemed] to be operating normally and I noticed [liquid] dripping from the fuel line at the firewall fitting. I checked the fuel line for tightness with no movement noted. Once the fuel boost pump was shut off, the fuel continued to drip at a lower rate under static pressure. It stopped about 5 minutes later. Per NTSB, the owner continued further disassembly for the exam to continue at a later date.

11/20/2023 - I went back to the hangar ... to continue with the exam once the owner had further disassembled the aircraft to gain better access to the fuel line fitting. We removed the fuel line from the firewall fitting, capped the fitting, ran the boost pump. There were still some very small drips. Inspected the fuel line fitting as best as we could while still attached to the aircraft firewall and noticed some damage on the fitting. The owner and I tried to remove the fuel line fitting from the firewall to examine the fitting further, but some further disassembly will be required to gain

access to remove the fitting from the firewall. The owner did not have the proper tools on site to remove the firewall fuel line fitting at this time.