

Stephen Stein
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
AS-WPR

Date: October 10, 2025

Subject: WPR24FA226 - Statement from friend of passenger

Contact: Michael McGuffin

According to Mr. McGuffin, he was attending a local biking experience with the accident flight passenger and another friend that was hosted by the pilot's wife. After they camped with the accident pilot and his wife, the pilot's wife asked if any of them wanted to go on a flight with her husband. Mr. McGuffin and the other friend flew with the accident pilot for about 30 minutes towards Mt. Rainier in his Cessna. After another individual did not show for the subsequent flight, the pilot elected to take the passenger in the accident airplane. The passenger boarded and positioned himself in the rear seat and the accident pilot was in the front seat.

Mr. McGuffin stated that he witnessed the departure, but did not see the pilot sump the fuel tanks during the preflight inspection, nor did he observe any fuel leaking from the airplane during taxi and takeoff.