



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

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Eastern Region Aviation

June 7, 2018

Subject: ERA17LA201 Gordonsville, FL
Name: Robert Silva – Pilot/Owner
Summary: Pilot Interview from Sheriff’s Department Recording

Mr. Silva was interviewed at the hospital by Detective Joshua Anderson of the Polk County Sheriff’s Department, and the interview was recorded. A review of the recording revealed that Mr. Silva was very candid with his responses, and they are summarized below.

During the interview, Mr. Silva stated that he had "disoriented" himself by holding the airport diagram "upside down" as the airplane approached BOW. Once oriented, he turned the airplane on to the downwind leg of the traffic pattern, noticed he was "high" and disconnected the autopilot. During the final approach, the airplane was descending "rapidly" and Mr. Silva added power to complete the landing, but "nothing happened" as he "hadn't reset [the] mixture." According to the Mr. Silva, he lacked the time and the altitude to "remedy the problem."

When asked about the location of the airplane’s maintenance records, Mr. Silva replied that he had been moving, and did not know of their whereabouts.

As the interview concluded, Mr. Silva said, “I admit it... I screwed up.”