



## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

**Heidi Kemner**  
**Air Safety Investigator**  
**Eastern Region Aviation**

**June 24, 2020**

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**Subject:** ERA20CA226  
**Who:** Stephen Tucker – FAA Inspector

In an email, Inspector Tucker stated the following:

On June 20, 2020 he departed the KEHO airport and flew to KPGV (208 nm) for the weekend. He left KEHO with full tanks. When he got to KPGV, he topped off with 18.7 gallons (I have copy of receipt). The flight there took 2.4 hours. Looking at flightaware his average speed was around 100 kts with tailwind.

The attempted return trip was June 22, 2020. He ended up in an open field approximately 4 nm east of the KEHO airport, short of his destination. The plane landed hard on the mains and nose and the nose gear separated from the aircraft. The aircraft slide to a stop on its nose and rested vertical in place until it was pushed back onto its mains. In the photos you will see, the nose gear was placed under the front of the aircraft, it is not connected to the aircraft at all. The firewall appears to have some buckling and damage.

When I saw the aircraft, I sampled the fuel and it looked like 100 LL. There was a small amount of sediment but nothing that I have ever seen impact the operation of an engine. The pilot said he dipped the tanks with a gauge, and it read 4 gallons. The issue with his test was in the hangar, the nose of the aircraft was low as it was on a ladder for support. We pushed the tail down to level the aircraft and dipped the tank again and this time it registered at the zero line (you can barely see fuel at the bottom). Before I left, I asked him to drain all of the tanks into a bucket. He texted me last night and said he only got 3 gallons out of the aircraft. The aircraft holds 26 total with 22.5 useable. He said nose low the aircraft would sputter but when the nose was up it would run, and this all started in his descent.



# Shell Aviation

06/22/20

08:53:11 AM

American Express  
Sale

Merchant ID: 14228  
Terminal ID: 10013691265

Pitt-Greenville Airport  
400 Airport Road  
Greenville 27834  
2529022026

V2.0.MDH.1.1

Batch 359

Invoice 106320

Entry Method: Contact EMV

Tail #: 1718a

Avgas 100LL 18.70 Gallons		
@ \$4.34000/Gallons	\$	81.16
Sales Tax Avgas		
@ 7.000%	\$	5.68
FET Avgas		
@ \$0.19400/Gallons	\$	3.63
Sales Tax Avgas		
@ 7.000%	\$	0.25
Tie Down Fee 1.00 Each		
@ \$5.00/Each	\$	5.00
Landing Fee 1.00 Each		
@ \$20.00/Each	\$	20.00
Total	\$	115.72

Approved: 829471

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EMV Information

Customer Copy