



Record of Conversation

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Subject: CEN20LA132, Witness Interview – Lee Hoskins

Mr. Hoskins was the pilot during an airplane accident involving N5553C at Mid-Way Airport, TX, on March 25, 2020. The interview took place after Mr. Hoskins was released from the hospital. He said he had about 2,000 total hours and about 250 hours in a Cessna 210, and most of his flight time was in multi-engine and complex airplanes.

Mr. Hoskins said the takeoff seemed normal until he reached about 300' above the ground and about ¼ mile past the departure end of the runway. He felt the engine start to lose power and immediately started a turn back to the runway. The engine didn't die, but it was not generating power. He said he didn't think he could safely land off the departure end of the runway due to the creek bed and trees in the area. He recalled the airplane dropping and the left wing hitting the ground.

Mr. Hoskins said he had bought the airplane in 2006 or 2007 and he had a previous loss of engine power in this airplane that resulted in a landing in a field near Salida, CO. He thought that event was in 2015. Following that event the airplane was worked on at a repair station at Mid-Way Airport and the turbocharger was replaced. Mr. Hoskins said he had not flown more than a couple times annually in the preceding year or two due to work. He did not have access to his flight records, but recalled his biannual flight review was coming due in July or August, 2020.

Mr. Hoskins said that after he had the annual inspection completed in September, 2019, he decided to leave the airplane at Mid-Way and have it repainted.

Mr. Hoskins said it had rained a couple days prior to the accident. Prior to the accident flight he drained a lot of water from the tanks. He said he let the airplane sit for a while and came back and sumped the tanks again until only fuel came out. He said he planned to fly around the pattern a few times to make sure everything was working correctly.