



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Central Region

Record of Telephone Conversation

Person Interviewed: Dave Bass – Pilot

Date: February 8, 2017

Subject: – CEN17LA101

Mr. Bass stated that he is doing ok. He has a fractured L-1 vertebra, frostbite on his hands, and his upper jaw was broken.

He flew from Winona to Thunder Bay, Ontario, earlier in the day. When he landed he had a headache and was feeling anxious, but he attributed it to being anxious about international procedures and that his child was cranking so he thought maybe she had a little illness that he might have picked up.

He had a meeting in Thunder Bay and as the day progressed, the headache went away. He had to preheat the airplane prior to departing Thunder Bay. He sat in the airplane with it running for a little while.

He flew to Duluth and the flight was fine, but again he had a headache when he landed. He took a couple Advil while on the ground. He was on the ground for about 30 minutes. He started the airplane and again sat in the airplane with it running for a while as he filed his flight plan and got his clearance. He stated he felt “weird” as he taxied, but then felt good while in the run-up area. He stated he thought that it was just a one hour flight and that he would be ok. He sat in the run-up area for a while as he double checked the radios and performed the checklist.

He remembers taking off, retracting the landing gear and being given a turn to a heading of 240 degrees. He stated he remembered thinking that maybe he should turn back. He remembers being cleared direct to Winona at which time he set the heading on the autopilot. The autopilot only has altitude hold function so he could not put in a climb to altitude. He does not remember anything else about the flight.

He stated he was confused after he woke in the airplane following the impact. He thought he was still flying and he kept keying the mike trying to talk to someone. He then realized that everything appeared so clear out the windscreen. He stuck his hand through the shattered windscreen and realized he was on the ground. He estimated he was probably unconscious, on

the ground for about 30 minutes and that it took him a while once he can to, to walk to the house for help.

He suspects he suffered from carbon monoxide poisoning. He mentioned this to the doctors and they checked his carbon monoxide levels, which were high. He was then treated in a hyperbolic chamber. Mr. Bass stated that he has never been a smoker.

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National Transportation Safety Board
Air Safety Investigator