

10-6-2012

Statement on accident dated 10-05-2012

On Oct. 5, 2012 at approximately 1:30pm, I departed on a dual instructional flight with Gabrielle Palmas in Warrior N8115Q. The purpose of the flight was to conduct a Stage I check for an Instrument training course. We departed on a simulated Instrument clearance using time, headings, and altitudes, and proceeded to the south practice area. The majority of our flight was conducted over what is referred to as the Green Fields, both West and East of I-10. She performed all of the maneuvers required on the lesson, and at approximately 2:15pm I simulated another clearance to fly heading 040, maintain 4000 feet, and to advise when she had Chandler ATIS. She switched from the South practice area frequency to Chandler ATIS and proceeded to fly the clearance. Moments later I saw an aircraft slightly higher, appearing to be in a slight left bank and almost head on. I took the controls and pushed very hard while rolling hard to the left, I felt the impact and rolled wings level. I knew we had collided, I looked back behind me and could see the other aircraft in level flight, same altitude, and he appeared to be in control. Prior to impact, I never saw the other aircraft make any abrupt pitch or roll inputs so I don't know if he ever saw us. I turned towards Memorial airport intending to land there. I called Chandler tower, reported that I had experienced a mid-air collision and declared an emergency. I informed them that I did not know the status of the other aircraft. We continued to Memorial airport, the aircraft was controllable with left aileron and heavy left rudder. I slowed the aircraft down and descended to Memorial. I was not sure of the condition of the landing gear, so on short final I closed the mixture, shut off all electrical and asked Gabrielle to turn the fuel selector to the off position. The flaps were unusable, we landed without further incident.

Curt Langenhorst

FLIGHT TIME

Hours make and model	4700
Hours last 90 days	74
Total flight time	15986