

## RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Daniel P. Boggs Air Safety Investigator National Transportation Safety Board Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: June 27, 2018 at 1030 EDT

Person(s) Interviewed: Warren Cilliers-witness

NTSB Case Number: ERA18FA200

## Narrative:

Mr. Warren Cilliers was interviewed in person.

Mr. Cilliers is a acrobatic pilot, A&P mechanic, and IA.

Warren stated he was standing in his hangar about 200 yards away from the end of Runway 17. It was a clear day, VFR conditions. He heard an airplane rev up the engine, so he turned to watch the airplane takeoff. He noticed the airplane held the brakes while the engine was at full throttle, so he believed the pilot was going to do a soft field or short field takeoff. As the airplane rolled down the runway, he noticed that the front wheel came off the ground once and then went back down for a few seconds, then the pilot rotated the airplane and it lifted off the ground. Warren stated he thought the pilot lifted the airplane off the ground early as it was slow at this point. He also stated the airplane kept climbing and the pilot did not lower the nose of the airplane to gain airspeed. The pilot kept the airplane going up and appeared to get "steeper and steeper". When the airplane was about 150 ft above ground level, he saw the airplane stall and the left wing drop down and spiral to the ground. He further stated the engine was running at full power the entire time.