



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Allison Diaz
Air Safety Investigator
Office of Aviation Safety – Eastern Region

Date: May 21, 2015
NTSB Accident Number: ERA15FA220
Summary of Interviews Conducted by Kentucky State Police

The following is a summary of interviews conducted by Trooper Jeremy Moore of the KY State Police Post 13 on the above date and provided to the NTSB as audio files:

- At 2242, Tpr. Moore interviewed Dottie Collins who stated the following:
 - It was daylight, with a mist of rain and a little fog. It was not windy.
 - The accident occurred between 1830 and 1845.
 - She did not see the airplane, but heard the impact.
 - After hearing the sound of impact, she ran outside, saw some smoke, and ran to the accident site. She saw that it was an airplane and called for her daughter, Lauren, to call 911.
 - She remained at the accident site until emergency personnel arrived.
- At 2252, Tpr. Moore interviewed Lauren Collins who stated the following:
 - The weather was foggy, drizzling rain, it was daylight.
 - She was inside the house when she heard the sound of impact, and ran outside with her mother, Dottie. Upon locating the accident site, she went back to the house to call 911.
 - She handed the phone to her cousin, Jordan Miller, to talk to 911 and report the accident.
 - She remained at the accident site until emergency personnel arrived.
- At 2257, Tpr. Moore interviewed Jordan Miller, who stated the following:
 - The weather was windy and sprinkling.
 - She heard the sound of impact, but did not witness the accident. Her brothers and their friend did witness the accident, and came into the house to get her. They ran up the hill towards the accident site.
 - She did not see fire or smoke, but smelled fuel at the site.

- She spoke to 911 and the emergency responders came.
 - She and her brothers remained at the accident site.
- At 2302, Tpr. Moore interviewed Ace Miller, who stated the following:
 - He was playing basketball with friends when he saw the airplane coming from the direction of the airport and impact terrain.
 - He then ran into the house to tell his dad and sister.
 - He stated he saw smoke coming from the airplane as it neared the ground.
 - They ran up to the accident site and stayed there about 20 minutes.
- At 2304, Tpr. Moore interviewed Colin Miller, who stated the following:
 - He saw the airplane impact while he and his friend were playing basketball.
 - He saw smoke coming from the airplane.
 - He ran into the house to say a plane had crashed, then ran up to the crash site.

END



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Date: May 26, 2015
NTSB Accident Number: ERA15FA220
Persons Contacted: Jeff Hylton, Manager, CPF

The following is a summary of the conversation conducted on this date:

- Mr. Hylton is the airport manager at CPF. He is a fixed-wing and helicopter pilot with over 18,000 hours.
- He was flying a Bell Jet Ranger in the area on the afternoon of the accident and stated that conditions were "definitely" IFR, with poor visibility and ceilings between 400-800 feet agl. In some locations, the clouds were "all the way down to the ridge." There were "layers" of clouds that extended up to about 7,000 ft.
- He also stated that there were several "bands" of weather that passed through the area that afternoon, with visibilities sometimes reducing to 2 miles.
- He stated that no one at CPF heard the accident pilot on the radio or saw the accident airplane on the day of the accident. This was not abnormal, though; the pilot had flown to CPF several times and "never" announced his position on the CTAF.
- It was his understanding that the pilot was in a relationship with a woman who lived in Hazard, and would come to visit her on the weekends. He would typically fly in on a Friday night and depart on Sunday.
- The day of the accident was "not the first time" the pilot had flown into CPF in poor weather conditions, including icing conditions.
- The pilot almost never requested fuel or other services at the airport, and did not speak to airport staff.
- The accident airplane had very little equipment/instrumentation.

- On one occasion, the pilot flew into CPF on a weekend where severe weather (tornados) were forecast. The pilot did not tie down the airplane before leaving the airport, and when asked if he wanted the airplane brought into a hangar, he declined, stating it wasn't his airplane.

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