

Michael Folkerts
Air Safety Investigator
Central Division

Date: May 19, 2022

Subject: CEN22FA203, Flight Instructor Interview

Contact: John Hodges

Mr. Hodges was a former Army helicopter pilot and currently flew the Boeing 737 as a professional pilot. He was the primary flight instructor for the accident student pilot, but their last flight together occurred in October, 2021.

The student pilot's initial solo occurred December 2020. He picked up flying well from a "stick and rudder" skills standpoint and also flew engine out procedures well. The student pilot was a business owner and because of his busy work schedule had a "start-stop-start" type of flight training. His training progress was very good when flying regularly. The flight instructor had not noticed the student pilot to have a reckless attitude, and student pilot treated his instruction with respect.

Mr. Hodges stated the student pilot flew cross countries well. The student pilot struggled a bit academically and was therefore reluctant to take the private pilot written test. When the student pilot was not willing to take the written test, Mr. Hodges and the student pilot parted ways at the end of 2021.

He stated the accident airplane was very responsive to flight control inputs. During a stall maneuver, a wing would tend to roll off abruptly. He had informed the student pilot that the airplane needed to be respected while maneuvering, especially with respect to stall characteristics.