

Fabian Salazar
Air Safety Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: August 18, 2022

Subject: WPR22FA309 / Record of Conversation

Contact: Terry McKenna, Owner United Flight Services

In a telephone interview with Mr. McKenna, he recalled the pilot of the Cessna 152 started training at United Flight Services in about 2020. The flight instructor that initially began training him had left the company. He recalled that the pilot had passed his private pilot check ride in 2021 but then took a break from flying due to personal reasons. The pilot had decided to resume flying and had recently passed a biennial flight review administered by a flight instructor, Jonathan Kuch. The biennial flight review was conducted on August 14, 2022.

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Contact: Jonathan Kuch, Flight Instructor

In a telephone interview with Mr. Kuch, he stated that he was a flight instructor employed by United Flight Services. He did not know the pilot of the Cessna 152 prior to the time when he administered a biennial flight review (BFR) on August 14, 2022. He stated that as part of the BFR he tasked the pilot with planning a cross country flight to Santa Barbara, California. When the flight instructor checked the cross-country flight plan that the pilot had created, he was favorably impressed and thought that the pilot was well prepared for the flight. During the flight portion of the BFR, they flew the accident airplane. The flight instructor stated that, even though the pilot had not flown in a while, he was very proficient in operating the airplane, to the point that the flight instructor did not have to take the flight controls except to set up unusual attitudes for the pilot to react to. The flight instructor reported that after the pilot performed tasks including power on and off stalls, and engine out operations, he observed nothing unsafe, the pilot used the checklist every time, and the pilot had good airplane handling skills.