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AS-ANC

Date: May 26, 2024
Subject: ANC24LA035, Commercially Rated Pilot Written Statement
Contact: Katie Waito, Commercially Rated Pilot

The Following is a written statement provided by Katie Waito.

I was involved in an incident when I went for a ride with a young man in his Piper pacer. On Thursday evening May 16 he walked up to my boyfriend's hangar, looking for hangar space as he had just bought a Piper pacer. I have a similar airplane, a Pa-16 Piper clipper. Mine has bushwheels and some seaplane mods. And he wanted to do all that to his. He was pretty hyped about just getting his airplane and wanted me to come for a ride. I did not know he wasn't a pilot. he was sitting in the left seat acting as PIC in his airplane. He started it and was on the controls and brakes. I was just going for a ride, I had no control. I had no brakes and couldn't reach the rudder pedals.

So when he took off he held full power and brakes. The plane ran off to the right. Through the grass and over the taxi way. The airplane never left the ground. I tried to grab the throttle but he was froze up on it. I don't think the throttle was ever pulled til we hit a fence. The airplane flipped over and we got out safely.

I never saw logbooks , licenses or anything. Honestly didn't know the guys first name. I feel very stupid for trusting a stranger, but like I said before I thought he was a pilot he just told me he flew it from somewhere in Utah.

Anyway, I would really appreciate if this doesn't lay on me as I have a career in aviation and something this stupid could really affect that. If I had any controls that accident would of never happened.