



Record of Conversation

Fabian Salazar
Air Safety Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
Investigator in Charge

NTSB Accident Number: WPR22LA016
Aircraft Registration & Make/Model: N926LL / Cessna 180
Accident Location: Kalispell, MT
Accident Date: October 12, 2021

Roger Anderson
Airframe and Power Mechanic

In a telephone interview with the mechanic, he stated that he worked on the airplane just prior to the pilot departing with it for her flight that ended with the accident. He said the husband of the pilot came to him and reported problems with the handling on landing.

He wanted different tires and rims. He said that when he took off the existing parts, he discovered that the previous mechanic had put the rim bolts in the calipers, and they had been gouging the tire area. The mechanic recommended that the owner purchase new brake calipers as well. The mechanic stated that the existing brake calipers that he had were pitted on the inside and he was not going to put them back on. He stated that he set the alignment in accordance with procedures for over-sized tires.

He said that they checked his main gear for alignment and discovered that the previous mechanic had not installed the required shims and corrected that. He checked the tail wheel for proper function and made sure the tail wheel was adjusted in accordance with the maintenance manual.

After the maintenance was performed, the accident pilot arrived to pick up the airplane. The mechanic suggested to her that she take the airplane out to Willow, in the gravel, and practice in it, as she had not flown the airplane since the maintenance was performed. He indicated that this was because he was aware of the first accident that she had. He stated that she had done something similar in the past when "she came in and a storm was chasing her. She wanted to get the hell out of there in a hurry, and she took it over and ground looped it."

He said that she took off with the airplane, landed at White Horse and called him. He said that he asked her how the airplane was, and she stated that she landed just fine, and she had no problems whatsoever. He said that the next thing he heard was that she was in Montana and that she had ground looped again.

He stated that she was a tiny person [small stature] who flew with cushions underneath her and he did not know how her feet even reached the rudder pedals.

When asked if the husband of the pilot flew the airplane after the work had been conducted, the mechanic stated "no."

He stated that that airplane [main landing gear] set up was probably the best example he had ever put together as far as being right on the money.