



## MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

**Aaron McCarter**  
**Air Safety Investigator**  
**Eastern Region Aviation**

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**Date: 08/03/2020**  
**Person Contacted: Pilot: Fred Defilippis**  
**NTSB Accident Number: ERA20LA269**

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### **Narrative:**

Spoke with the pilot/owner about the circumstances surrounding the accident.

He stated it was an “odd situation.” The airplane just came out of annual.

He’s been flying this specific airplane since 1981/82 and has about 4,000 hours in the airplane.

After the annual, he wanted to make sure the airplane was in good shape. He is always careful when the airplane comes out of annual.

He flew the airplane to Sky Acres, in Danbury and made an uneventful landing, then he flew the airplane to Columbia County, and did 2 landings.

On the third takeoff, he lined up on the runway and accelerated down the runway about 100 to 150 feet and the airplane pulled to the left. He could not control the left turn with the rudder; the rudder wouldn’t move the airplane back to the right. It was having no effect.

He “thinks” he pulled the throttle to the off position as the airplane departed the runway. It went down an embankment and impacted small trees. He went into the trees about 20 or 30 feet.

The door was jammed by trees, but he was able to get out with assistance. He walked up to the runway and spoke to the police.

The weather was nice that day, and the runway was about 3,000 feet and in good condition. He will fill out and submit the 6120 accident report.

[END]