

Eric M. Gutierrez Air Safety Investigator Western Pacific Region

Date: October 13, 2023

Subject: WPR24FA004, Memorandum for Record

Contact: Marlon Evans, Program Manager, Hillsboro Aero Academy

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by Mr. Evans in an email correspondence.

Mr. Marlon Evans is the Program Manager at Hillsboro Aero Academy. Following the airplane accident that occurred on October 3, 2023 in Newberg, Oregon. Mr. Evans was able to visit Emily Hurd, the lone survivor in the hospital.

According to Mr. Evans, Ms. Hurd conveyed the following information:

Ms. Hurd had just returned from her XC (cross country flight) with Teddy and decided to back seat since she was starting her complex time very soon.

They were doing a normal training flight. Prior to the accident they conducted the following maneuvers with no issues: slow flight, stalls, and steep turns.

The last maneuver prior to the accident was Vmc demo. Ms Hurd recalled, there being more than 5 degrees of bank. This was her first time seeing a Vmc demo so she was not sure if the maneuver was done correctly or incorrectly and if the recovery procedures were done correctly or incorrectly.

During the maneuver, the airplane started going to the left and very quickly became inverted. She doesn't recall when the transfer of controls happened, but Barrett was the one that asked Michele to take controls.

She couldn't see what Michele was doing since she was sitting behind him.

Michele and Barrett were calmly trying to solve the problem on the way down talking to each other the whole time. She closed her eyes at the last few seconds and doesn't remember it.

Additionally, Ms. Hurd claimed that something was wrong with the airplane and that there should've been a reason why they couldn't recover from the spin.