

Tealeye Cornejo Air Safety Investigator (Field) AS-WPR

**Date:** April 20, 2022

**Subject:** WPR22FA160 Whiteman Tower Air Traffic controller Summary

Review of recorded air traffic control communication for Whiteman Airport revealed that the pilot was issued a frequency change to Southern California Approach Control, however, 10 seconds later, the pilot reported to the tower controller that the [landing] gear did not retract all the way, and he would like to stay over the airport. The tower controller asked the pilot what his intentions were, to which the pilot replied he was going to climb to 2,500 ft and circle the airport. The controller instructed the pilot to climb to 2,500 ft, and make a left pattern, which the pilot acknowledged. No further communication was received from the pilot, despite the tower controllers' attempts.