



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Lake Elsinore, California Accident Number: GAA20CA003

Date & Time: October 4, 2019, 12:00 Local Registration: N192DP

Aircraft: Vans RV9 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Landing gear collapse **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

#### **Analysis**

The pilot reported that, after landing on a dirt runway and while taxiing down the runway to the parking area, the nose landing gear encountered soft terrain and collapsed, and the airplane nosed over. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage and rudder. The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

#### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's selection of unsuitable terrain for taxi, which resulted in the landing gear collapsing and a nose-over.

#### **Findings**

Personnel issues Decision making/judgment - Pilot

Environmental issues Soft surface - Effect on equipment

Environmental issues Soft surface - Decision related to condition

## **Factual Information**

## History of Flight

Taxi	Miscellaneous/other
Taxi	Landing gear collapse (Defining event)
Taxi	Nose over/nose down

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	25,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 28, 2019
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 56 hours (Total, all aircraft), 7.1 hours (Total, this make and model), 20 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 24.7 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 15.3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8.8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Vans	Registration:	N192DP
RV9 A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
2004	Amateur Built:	Yes
Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	90411
Tricycle	Seats:	2
November 28, 2018 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
512.9 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-320-D25
On file	Rated Power:	160 Horsepower
On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
	RV9 A 2004 Experimental (Special) Tricycle November 28, 2018 Annual  512.9 Hrs as of last inspection Installed, not activated On file	RV9 A Aircraft Category:  2004 Amateur Built:  Experimental (Special) Serial Number:  Tricycle Seats:  November 28, 2018 Annual Certified Max Gross Wt.:  Engines:  512.9 Hrs as of last inspection Installed, not activated Engine Manufacturer:  On file Rated Power:  On file Operating Certificate(s)

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KRIV,1536 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	16 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	18:58 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	9°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.01 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 5°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Mesquite, NV (67L)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Lake Elsinore, CA (CA89)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

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## **Airport Information**

Airport:	Skylark Field CA89	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	1253 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Rough;Soft
Runway Used:	11L	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2800 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.630001,-117.301666(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gutierrez, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Ricardo Hernandez; FAA; Riverside, CA
Original Publish Date:	May 21, 2020
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=100375

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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