

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Anchorage, Alaska Accident Number: ANC21LA002

Date & Time: October 20, 2020, 14:15 Local Registration: N850WB

Aircraft: Cessna 185 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The pilot receiving instruction reported that he and the flight instructor were practicing takeoffs and landings in his airplane. On the second landing, during the landing roll, the airplane veered to the right and exited the runway onto soft terrain, and the airplane then spun abruptly to the right. The left wing and left elevator struck the ground, which resulted in substantial damage to the left wing, left aileron, left horizontal stabilizer, and left elevator. The pilot receiving instruction reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation and that the accident might have been prevented if he had reacted more quickly and prevented the airplane from departing the runway.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot receiving instruction's failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll, which resulted in a runway excursion onto soft terrain. Contributing to the accident was the flight instructor's inadequate supervision of the pilot while landing.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Monitoring other person - Instructor/check pilot

Environmental issues (general) - Effect on operation

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	63,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 14, 2020
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 26, 2010
Flight Time:	574 hours (Total, all aircraft), 574 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	69,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 5, 2020
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 13, 2020
Flight Time:	2400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 0 hours (Total, this make and model), 2000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N850WB
Model/Series:	185 E	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1968	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	185-1350
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 1, 2020 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5600 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520D
Registered Owner:	John A Morris	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PABV,96 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	98°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	230°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.42 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	2°C / -2°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Anchorage, AK (PALH)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Anchorage, AK (PALH)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	Birchwood Airport PABV	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	83 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	02L	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4010 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	61.416089,-149.5083

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Banning, David

Additional Participating
Persons:

Original Publish Date: September 29, 2021

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class 4

Note: The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=102180

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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