



AVIATION



HIGHWAY



MARINE



RAILROAD



PIPELINE

# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Grain Valley, Missouri	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN22LA324
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 15, 2022, 02:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N2945Q
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA-28-161	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Fuel exhaustion	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

Law enforcement reported the airplane overflow a tractor-trailer, landed on the interstate roadway, and impacted a guardrail. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing. The student pilot reported to law enforcement that the airplane ran out of fuel. While on-scene at the accident location, the pilot was arrested for driving while intoxicated and operating an aircraft while intoxicated. The pilot refused to provide a statement of the accident.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

The loss of engine power due to fuel exhaustion.

## Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Fuel planning - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Fuel - Fluid level
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Alcohol - Pilot

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Maneuvering</b>	Fuel exhaustion (Defining event)
<b>Landing</b>	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Student	<b>Age:</b>	35,Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Unknown
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	July 31, 2019
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	290 hours (Total, all aircraft), 235 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N2945Q
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-28-161	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	28-7716128
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	July 1, 2022 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	5115 Hrs as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-320-D3G
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	On file	<b>Rated Power:</b>	160 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Night
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KLXT,1000 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	9 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	02:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	244°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	12 knots / 22 knots	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	180°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.02 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	28°C / 16°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Jasper, AL (JFX)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Grain Valley, MO	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	22:10 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	39.021606,-94.199972(est)

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Sauer, Aaron
Additional Participating Persons:	David Johnson; FAA; Kansas City, MO
Original Publish Date:	September 22, 2022
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<a href="#">Class 4</a>
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=105515">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=105515</a>

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