



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	CELINA, Ohio	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CHI88LA239
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	September 18, 1988, 16:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N249Q
<b>Aircraft:</b>	ENSTROM F28A	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

AFTER 2 UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO TAKEOFF, THE PLT/OWNER TRIED A 3RD TAKEOFF IN HIS NEWLY PURCHASED HELICOPTER. HE RPRTD THAT DURING THE FIRST 2 ATTEMPTS TO TAKEOFF, HE COULDN'T SEEM TO GET 100% OF HIS LEFT PEDAL AUTHORITY. SHORTLY AFTER THE HELICOPTER BECAME AIRBORNE ON THE 3RD ATTEMPT, IT TURNED ABRUPTLY TO THE RIGHT, EVEN THOUGH THE PLT HAD THE LEFT PEDAL IN. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE HELICOPTER IMPACTED IN AN ANIMAL PEN AREA. THE PLT RPRTD THAT A NON-QUALIFIED PERSON HAD MADE A TAIL ROTOR PITCH ADJUSTMENT ON THE HELICOPTER PRIOR TO THE ACDNT FLT. THE PLT HAD ONLY 2 HRS OF FLT TIME IN THIS MAKE & MODEL OF ACFT.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

#### Findings

1. (F) ROTORCRAFT FLIGHT CONTROL, TAIL ROTOR CONTROL - INCORRECT
2. (C) MAINTENANCE, ADJUSTMENT - IMPROPER - UNQUALIFIED PERSON
3. (C) LIFT-OFF - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

5. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRCRAFT - PILOT IN COMMAND  
-----

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ABORTED

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	54, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Helicopter	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	October 6, 1987
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1645 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2 hours (Total, this make and model), 1569 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 54 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 29 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	ENSTROM	<b>Registration:</b>	N249Q
<b>Model/Series:</b>	F28A F28A	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Helicopter
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	284
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Skid	<b>Seats:</b>	3
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	August 28, 1988 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2150 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	8 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	410 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	H10-360-C1A
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	NYE, GERALD P.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	205 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	DAY	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	16:51 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 2500 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	5 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Overcast / 9000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	6 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	230°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	26°C / 20°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	N/A - None - Haze		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	(CQA)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	(CQA)	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	16:30 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	LAKEFIELD COUNTY CQA	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Grass/turf
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	892 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	40.549137,-84.570991(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Reeves, Jodi
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	M VALENTINE; COLUMBUS , OH
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	November 28, 1989
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=14165">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=14165</a>

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](#).