



# Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

<b>Location:</b>	Rockport, TX	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN23LA267
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	June 24, 2023, 16:15 UTC	<b>Registration:</b>	N123SM
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna 421	<b>Injuries:</b>	4 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

On June 24, 2023, about 1615 central daylight time, a Cessna 421 airplane, N123SM, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Rockport, Texas. The pilot and three passengers were not injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 91 personal flight.

The pilot reported that he had flown the airplane from the West Houston Airport (IWS), West Houston, Texas, to the Corpus Christi International Airport (CRP), Corpus Christi, Texas, where he picked up the airplane owner and his friends for a return flight to IWS. Flight track data indicated that the airplane departed CRP about 1545 and headed northeast.

The pilot reported that about 20 minutes into the flight, the right engine lost power and he briefly lost control of the airplane. He regained control and executed a forced landing to a field. During the forced landing, the airplane's landing gear separated from the airplane and the airplane came to rest on its belly. The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and the fuselage.

The airplane and both engines have been retained for further examination.

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N123SM
<b>Model/Series:</b>	421	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Amateur Built:</b>			
<b>Operator:</b>	FERNAIR LLC	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>			

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	VMC	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KRKP, 25 ft msl	<b>Observation Time:</b>	15:53 Local
<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	4 Nautical Miles	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	33°C / 25°C
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	14 knots / None, 140°
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility:</b>	9 miles
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.92 inches Hg	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	VFR
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Corpus Christi, TX (CRP)	<b>Destination:</b>	West Houston, TX (IWS)

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	3 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	4 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	28.0206,-97.0544 (est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Brannen, John
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class 3</a>
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.