



Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	Chandler, AZ	Accident Number:	WPR24LA012
Date & Time:	October 11, 2023, 10:50 Local	Registration:	N4380D
Aircraft:	Piper PA-46-310P	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

On October 11, 2023, about 1150 mountain standard time, a Piper PA-46-310P Malibu, N4380D, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Chandler, Arizona. The air transport pilot and passenger were not injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

The pilot stated that the purpose of the flight was for the accident airplane to be photographed by another pilot in a different airplane. The pilot stated that during the preflight he noted there was about 35 gallons of fuel onboard. After a normal run-up, the pilot departed runway 22R. During the initial climb, when the airplane was about 5 miles from the departure end of the runway at an altitude of about 1,500 ft above ground level (agl), the engine experienced a partial loss of power.

The pilot declared an emergency to air traffic control and made 180° degree turn to return back to the airport. The airplane was unable to maintain sufficient altitude and the pilot elected to retract the landing gear in an effort to reduce the drag. The pilot touched down in a dirt area about 500 ft short of the threshold for runway 04R. The airplane came to rest upright and sustained damage to the left aileron.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector that responded to the accident stated that the fuel tanks were intact. He drained about 0.5 gallons from each wing tank. He turned the airplane power on, noted that the airplane's fuel gauges read empty and the JPI engine monitor indicated that 32 gallons remained.

A post accident examination was conducted by a certified mechanic under the auspice of the FAA inspector. The fuel line was disconnected at the engine-driven fuel pump. No signs of fluid were observed during the disconnection. A clean, flexible hose was attached to the fuel line and plumbed to a 5-gallon container. The master switch was activated supplying power to the airplane. Both boost pumps were activated on their high and low settings and could be heard operating. No fuel egressed from the lines. There were no tripped or "popped" circuit breakers. The fuel sump drains from the left and right hopper tanks were removed. About six ounces of fuel was observed to flow out during the removal. There was no other fluid found in the system.

The JPI instrument was removed for further investigation.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N4380D
Model/Series:	PA-46-310P	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:			
Operator:	LIVENGOOD LEASING CO LLC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Designator Code:			

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KIWA,1382 ft msl	Observation Time:	11:50 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	8 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	31°C /6°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	6 knots / , 210°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.58 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Chandler, AZ (CHD)	Destination:	Maricopa, AZ (A39)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.267558,-111.81315 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Keliher, Zoe

Additional Participating Persons: Brain Mehrstens; Federal Aviation Administration; Scottsdale, AZ

Investigation Class: [Class 3](#)

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