Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	Eldorado Springs, CO	**Accident Number:**	CEN27LA005
Date & Time:	October 4, 2026, 21:30 Local	**Registration:**	N162GL
Aircraft:	DIAMOND AIRCRAFT IND INC DA 40	**Injuries:**	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

On October 4, 2026, about 2130 mountain daylight time, a Diamond Aircraft DA-40 airplane, N162GL, was destroyed when it was involved in an accident near Eldorado Springs, Colorado. The pilot and passenger were fatally injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

ADS-B data indicated that the flight departed from runway 29 at the Vance Brand Airport (LMO), Longmont, Colorado, about 1832. The pilot initially proceeded west and then south from LMO and maneuvered southwest of Boulder at altitudes up to 12,000 ft mean sea level (msl). He then flew about 68 miles to the northwest before reversing course, reaching altitudes of up to 15,000 ft msl during that portion of the flight. About 2036, the pilot returned to the vicinity of Boulder and maneuvered in that area between about 11,000 ft msl and 7,500 ft msl. The final ADS-B data point was recorded at 2129:39 and located about 1 mile north of Eldorado Springs. The altitude corresponding to that data point was about 7,375 ft msl.

The Search and Rescue Satellite-Aided Tracking (SARSAT) network detected the airplane's emergency locator transmitter (ELT) signal at 2131. Notification of that signal was received by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) at 2132. The Boulder County Sheriff's Office was notified of the active ELT signal at 2143, and a search subsequently located the accident site about 1016 the following morning.

The site was in mountainous terrain about 1 mile west of the final data point at an approximate elevation of 7,360 ft. The airplane impacted rising terrain about 300 ft below a ridgeline. The airframe was fragmented. Due to the difficulty of the terrain, and for safety reasons, the NTSB did not respond to the accident site. Airframe and engine examinations will be conducted after the wreckage is recovered to a secure location.

This information is preliminary and subject to change.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	DIAMOND AIRCRAFT IND INC	**Registration:**	N162GL
Model/Series:	DA 40	**Aircraft Category:**	Airplane
Amateur Built:			
Operator:	BOULDER AVIATION PARTNERS LLC	**Operating Certificate(s) Held:**	None
Operator Designator Code:	N/A		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	**Condition of Light:**	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KBJC,5595 ft msl	**Observation Time:**	21:35 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	9 Nautical Miles	**Temperature/Dew Point:**	17°C /0°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	**Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:**	3 knots / 0 knots, 250°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	**Visibility:**	10 miles
Altimeter Setting:	30.33 inches Hg	**Type of Flight Plan Filed:**	NONE
Departure Point:	Longmont, CO (LMO)	**Destination:**	Longmont, CO (LMO)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	**Aircraft Damage:**	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	**Aircraft Fire:**	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	**Aircraft Explosion:**	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	**Latitude, Longitude:**	39.94701,-105.29338

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Sorensen, Timothy
Additional Participating Persons:	Christopher Avdem; FAA Flight Standards; Denver, CO
Investigation Class:	Class 3
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.

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