



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Chandler, Arizona Accident Number: WPR11CA470

Date & Time: September 28, 2011, 11:11 Local Registration: N8056B

Aircraft: Piper PA-28RT-201 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Hard landing **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

#### **Analysis**

While on the downwind leg of the traffic pattern, the certified flight instructor (CFI) and pilot-undergoing-instruction (PUI) completed the landing checklist, but delayed the landing gear extension because they were conducting a 180-degree power-off approach. On final approach, as they were preparing to extend the landing gear, the air traffic controller told them to conduct a go-around because the landing gear was not extended. They extended the landing gear, and the CFI verified three green lights. He then requested permission to land and the tower controller cleared the airplane to land. As the airplane approached the runway, a high sink rate developed. The CFI told the PUI to add power, and the CFI simultaneously started to move the throttle control forward. The CFI said that his hand slipped past the PUI's hand, and he reached again to push the throttle forward when the airplane touched down hard on the runway. They aborted the landing, conducted a low approach to verify the position of the landing gear, and landed uneventfully. A postaccident examination revealed rib damage to the left wing. The CFI reported no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

#### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The certified flight instructor's and pilot-undergoing-instruction's improper flare, which resulted in a hard landing.

# **Findings**

Aircraft Descent/approach/glide path - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Task monitoring/vigilance - Instructor/check pilot

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Flight crew

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# **Factual Information**

# History of Flight

# Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	54,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 1, 2010
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 31, 2010
Flight Time:	7514 hours (Total, all aircraft), 179 hours (Total, this make and model), 7214 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 89 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 36 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### **Student pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial	A	25 Famala
Certificate.	Commercial	Age:	35,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 18, 2010
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	July 6, 2010
Flight Time:	531 hours (Total, all aircraft), 46 hours (Total, this make and model), 291 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

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# **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N8056B
Model/Series:	PA-28RT-201	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	28R-8218011
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 21, 2011 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	37 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5397 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-C1C6
Registered Owner:	CHANDLER AIR SERVICE INC	Rated Power:	200 Horsepower
Operator:	CHANDLER AIR SERVICE INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

# Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CHD,1243 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	10:47 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	30 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	31°C / 10°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Chandler, AZ (CHD )	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Chandler, AZ (CHD )	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	10:55 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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# **Airport Information**

Airport:	Chandler Municipal Airport CHD	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1243 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	04L	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4870 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

# Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.26889,-111.811111

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#### **Administrative Information**

Dunks, Kristi
Ernest Copeland; Federal Aviation Administration; Scottsdale, AZ
December 1, 2011
<u>Class</u>
This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=81919

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.

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