



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: San Diego, California Accident Number: GAA18CA207

Date & Time: April 10, 2018, 14:00 Local Registration: N4567T

Aircraft: Piper PA34 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Landing gear not configured **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

### **Analysis**

The flight instructor reported that the pilot receiving instruction performed a simulated single-engine approach. He wanted to be able to communicate more easily with the pilot, so he set the simulated failed engine to 15 inches of mercury manifold pressure since the landing gear warning horn will sound if the manifold pressure is set below 14 inches of mercury. He added that he did not verify the gear was down and locked with the three green extended lights illuminated. He reported that, just before landing, he heard the landing gear warning horn but attributed it to the stall warning horn. The pilot receiving instruction reported that he did not recall hearing any audible alarm. The airplane landed with the gear retracted.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both the wings.

The flight instructor reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions 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 pilot receiving instruction and flight instructor's failure to properly configure the landing gear before landing, which resulted in landing with the landing gear retracted.

### **Findings**

Aircraft	(general) - Not used/operated

Personnel issues Forgotten action/omission - Instructor/check pilot

Personnel issues Forgotten action/omission - Student/instructed pilot

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## **Factual Information**

### **History of Flight**

Landing gear not configured (Defining event)
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### Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	56,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
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:	April 18, 2016
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 11, 2016
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 5239 hours (Total, all aircraft), 833 hours (Total, this make and model), 5065 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 34 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 13 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	44,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 20, 2016
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 15, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 409 hours (Total, all aircraft), 45 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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### **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N4567T
Model/Series:	PA34 200	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1972	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	34-7250136
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 20, 2018 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	7151 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-C1E6
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	200 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

### Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSDM,525 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	20:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	116°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.98 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	SAN DIEGO, CA (MYF)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	San Diego, CA (SDM )	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

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### **Airport Information**

Airport:	BROWN FIELD MUNI SDM	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt;Concrete
Airport Elevation:	526 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	26R	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	7972 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;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:	32.572498,-116.980552(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	Roger Messick; FAA; San Diego, CA
Original Publish Date:	July 5, 2018
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97012

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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