



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Gainesville, Florida	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA18CA243
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 29, 2018, 21:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N2212A
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna 310	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Controlled flight into terr/obj (CFIT)	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot reported that, on final approach at night, while speaking with the control tower, the airplane's left horizontal stabilizer struck a tree. The pilot added full power, pitched up, the airplane yawed left, and he resumed final approach. The airplane landed without further incident.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left horizontal stabilizer.

The pilot 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's failure to maintain an adequate approach path at night, which resulted in a tree strike.

## Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Descent/approach/glide path - Not attained/maintained
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Tree(s) - Contributed to outcome
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Dark - Effect on operation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Approach-VFR pattern final</b>	Controlled flight into terr/obj (CFIT) (Defining event)
<b>Approach</b>	Attempted remediation/recovery

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	30,Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Unknown
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	May 15, 2014
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	July 12, 2017
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated) 207.3 hours (Total, all aircraft), 67.3 hours (Total, this make and model), 115.3 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 19 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7.3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1.5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N2212A
<b>Model/Series:</b>	310 G	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1962	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	310G-0018
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	5
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	March 21, 2018 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	4990 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	2 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3193.5 Hrs as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONT MOTOR
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-470-D
<b>Registered Owner:</b>		<b>Rated Power:</b>	260 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KGNV, 123 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	0 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	00:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	321°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Few / 8500 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>		<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	80°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.1 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	23°C / 13°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	PERRY, GA (PXE )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (FXE )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	VFR; VFR flight following
<b>Departure Time:</b>	19:45 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class D

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	GAINESVILLE RGNL GNV	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	151 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	11	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	7504 ft / 150 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop; Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	29.689167, -82.273333 (est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Benhoff, Kathryn
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Andrew W Crossman; FAA; Orlando, FL
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	August 27, 2018
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97139">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97139</a>

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