



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana Accident Number: CEN24LA062

Date & Time: December 12, 2023, 12:30 Local Registration: N7067W

Aircraft: Cessna 340A Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Sys/Comp malf/fail (non-power) **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

The pilot reported that the airplane touched down on the left and right main landing gear wheels. A few seconds later, the pilot felt that something failed on the left main landing gear, and the left wing began to drop to the runway. The left wing contacted the runway, and the pilot attempted to maintain directional control. Subsequently, the airplane exited the runway surface, which resulted in substantial damage to the left wing, left aileron, and horizontal stabilizer. Maintenance records revealed the main landing gear were overhauled about two months prior to the accident. The pilot reported he had completed about 8 to 10 takeoffs and landings during those two months. Postaccident examination revealed the main landing gear system was improperly rigged and the improper installation of hardware which resulted in the overstress failure of the left main landing gear system.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The improper maintenance of the main landing gear, which resulted in a collapse and overstress failure of the left main landing gear during landing.

# Findings

| Aircraft | Main landing gear - Incorrect service/maintenance  |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Aircraft | Main landing gear - Failure                        |
| Aircraft | Directional control - Attain/maintain not possible |

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## **Factual Information**

## History of Flight

| Landing-landing roll | Sys/Comp malf/fail (non-power) (Defining event) |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Landing-landing roll | Landing gear collapse                           |

#### **Pilot Information**

| Certificate:              | Private                                                                                                              | Age:                              | 38,Male          |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Airplane Rating(s):       | Single-engine land; Multi-engine land                                                                                | Seat Occupied:                    | Left             |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None                                                                                                                 | Restraint Used:                   | 3-point          |
| Instrument Rating(s):     | Airplane                                                                                                             | Second Pilot Present:             | No               |
| Instructor Rating(s):     | None                                                                                                                 | Toxicology Performed:             |                  |
| Medical Certification:    | Class 2 Without waivers/limitations                                                                                  | Last FAA Medical Exam:            | February 8, 2022 |
| Occupational Pilot:       | No                                                                                                                   | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | May 16, 2023     |
| Flight Time:              | 1056 hours (Total, all aircraft), 249 hours (Total, this make and model), 855 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft) |                                   |                  |

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

| Aircraft Make:                | Cessna                         | Registration:                     | N7067W          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Model/Series:                 | 340A                           | Aircraft Category:                | Airplane        |
| Year of Manufacture:          | 1982                           | Amateur Built:                    |                 |
| Airworthiness Certificate:    | Normal                         | Serial Number:                    | 340A-1528       |
| Landing Gear Type:            | Retractable - Tricycle         | Seats:                            | 6               |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | June 12, 2023 Annual           | Certified Max Gross Wt.:          | 6390 lbs        |
| Time Since Last Inspection:   |                                | Engines:                          | 2 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time:          | 2406 Hrs as of last inspection | Engine Manufacturer:              | Continenal      |
| ELT:                          | Installed, not activated       | Engine Model/Series:              | TSIO-520-NB     |
| Registered Owner:             | On file                        | Rated Power:                      | 335 Horsepower  |
| Operator:                     | On file                        | Operating Certificate(s)<br>Held: | None            |

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

| Conditions at Accident Site:     | Visual (VMC)                     | Condition of Light:                  | Day              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | KNEW,3 ft msl                    | Distance from Accident Site:         | 0 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time:                | 12:53 Local                      | Direction from Accident Site:        | 342°             |
| <b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>   | Clear                            | Visibility                           | 10 miles         |
| Lowest Ceiling:                  | None                             | Visibility (RVR):                    |                  |
| Wind Speed/Gusts:                | 10 knots /                       | Turbulence Type<br>Forecast/Actual:  | /                |
| Wind Direction:                  | 70°                              | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | /                |
| Altimeter Setting:               | 30.42 inches Hg                  | Temperature/Dew Point:               | 16°C / 2°C       |
| Precipitation and Obscuration:   | No Obscuration; No Precipitation |                                      |                  |
| Departure Point:                 | Naples, FL                       | Type of Flight Plan Filed:           | IFR              |
| Destination:                     | New Orleans, LA                  | Type of Clearance:                   | IFR              |
| Departure Time:                  | 10:08 Local                      | Type of Airspace:                    | Class D          |
|                                  |                                  |                                      |                  |

## **Airport Information**

| Airport:             | LAKEFRONT NEW    | Runway Surface Type:             | Asphalt         |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Airport Elevation:   | 7 ft msl         | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> | Dry             |
| Runway Used:         | 18R/36L          | IFR Approach:                    | None            |
| Runway Length/Width: | 6879 ft / 150 ft | VFR Approach/Landing:            | Traffic pattern |

## **Wreckage and Impact Information**

| Crew Injuries:         | 1 None | Aircraft Damage:        | Substantial               |
|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Passenger<br>Injuries: | 1 None | Aircraft Fire:          | None                      |
| Ground Injuries:       |        | Aircraft Explosion:     | None                      |
| Total Injuries:        | 2 None | Latitude,<br>Longitude: | 30.041674,-90.026183(est) |

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Sauer, Aaron

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: August 1, 2024

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class 4

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

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=193521

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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