



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	BAYTOWN, TX	<b>Accident Number:</b>	FTW87FA025
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12/03/1986, 0228 CST	<b>Registration:</b>	N43302
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER PA-32-260	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

THE PLT TOOK OFF FROM A DECOMMISSIONED, UNLIGHTED ARPT AT NIGHT AFTER TELLING FRIENDS IN A BAR THAT HE WAS GOING TO NEW ORLEANS. LATER, WITNESSES OBSERVED THE ACFT AS THE PLT MADE SEVERAL LOW PASSES OVER AN INTERSTATE HIGHWAY NEAR THE DEPARTURE ARPT. WHILE MANEUVERING (AS IF TO LAND), THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH POWER LINES THAT WERE CROSSING THE ROAD, THEN THE PLANE CRASHED TO THE GROUND & BURNED. NO PREIMPACT PART FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION WAS EVIDENT. A CHECK OF THE PLT'S BLOOD SHOWED AN ALCOHOL LVL OF 0.261%.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

### Findings

1. (C) JUDGMENT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) IMPAIRMENT(ALCOHOL) - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
4. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) VISUAL/AURAL DETECTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (F) OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Student	<b>Age:</b>	38, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	Yes
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	12/05/1985
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>			

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	PIPER	<b>Registration:</b>	N43302
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-32-260 PA-32-260	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	32-7500036
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	6
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	3400 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-540-E4B5
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	JERRY T. ALLEN	<b>Rated Power:</b>	260 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	JERRY T. ALLEN	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	IAH, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0150 CST	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	10°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	5°C / 1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	HUMPHREY	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	U DAUGHERTY	Report Date:	03/25/1988
Additional Participating Persons:	CHRIS CLARK; HOUSTON, TX LEWIS R MASON; VERO BEACH, FL		
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).