



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	CALIFORNIA CITY, CA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX85LA394
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	09/01/1985, 1715 PDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N711DP
<b>Aircraft:</b>	GLASFLUGEL ST LIEBELLE 201B	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

THE GLIDER LANDED OFF THE ARPT ON A ROAD AND GROUNDLOOPE AFTER COLLIDING WITH SHRUBBERY. THE PLT COMPLAINED OF ENCOUNTERING A DOWNDRAFT DURING THE FLT.

## 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 ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

### Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - DOWNDRAFT
2. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) WEATHER EVALUATION - INACCURATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

### Findings

4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH VEGETATION
5. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - UNCONTROLLED - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	53, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Center
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Glider	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<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 2 Expired	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	08/25/1983
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1426 hours (Total, all aircraft), 125 hours (Total, this make and model), 1253 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 29 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	GLASFLUGEL	<b>Registration:</b>	N711DP
<b>Model/Series:</b>	ST LIEBELLE 201B ST LIEBELL	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>		<b>Serial Number:</b>	517
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Ski/wheel	<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	05/09/1985, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	660 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	29 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	349 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	NONE
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	NONE
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	ROGER GRIGSBY	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>	ROGER GRIGSBY	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	25 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	20 knots / 30 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	290°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	38° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CALIFORNIA CITY, CA (L71)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1330 PDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	CALIFORNIA CITY (L71)	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	2445 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced Landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	A D LLORENTE	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	; VAN NUYS, CA		
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](#).