



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Sparta, MI	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN11CA025
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	10/01/2010, 2100 EDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N759BJ
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 182Q	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

Just after the airplane lifted off the runway surface during the night takeoff, the pilot observed two deer crossing the runway from left to right. He stated that one deer was in front of him and the other was to the left of his path. He pulled back on the yoke in an attempt to avoid the deer at which time he heard a loud "bang." The pilot reported that he missed the deer that he observed and contacted a third deer that he did not see. The pilot continued the flight to his destination where he made an uneventful landing. The injured deer was located at the departure airport. The right horizontal stabilizer and elevator sustained substantial damage.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: An inadvertent collision with a deer during a night takeoff.

## Findings

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<b>Environmental issues</b>	Animal(s)/bird(s) - Effect on operation (Cause)
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## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT) (Defining event)
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### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	58, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	07/09/2009
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	568 hours (Total, all aircraft), 143 hours (Total, this make and model), 504 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N759BJ
Model/Series:	182Q	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18265860
Landing Gear Type:		Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	03/05/2010, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	15 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4596 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-470U
Registered Owner:	MOHAWK FLYING CLUB INC	Rated Power:	230 hp
Operator:	Kenneth A. Thompson	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	GRR, 794 ft msl	Observation Time:	2053 EDT
Distance from Accident Site:	16 Nautical Miles	Condition of Light:	Night
Direction from Accident Site:	155°	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 8000 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	16° C / 10° C
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 10000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:		Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	29.99 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Sparta, MI (8D4)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:	Grand Rapids, MI (GRR)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class E

## Airport Information

Airport:	Miller - Sparta Airport (8D4)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	775 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4033 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Pamela S Sullivan	Adopted Date:	03/16/2011
Additional Participating Persons:	John S Golda; FAA-GRR-FSDO; Grand Rapids, MI		
Publish Date:	03/16/2011		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=77622">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=77622</a>		

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