



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Florence, CO	Accident Number:	CEN20FA072
Date & Time:	02/02/2020, 1355 MST	Registration:	N5969W
Aircraft:	Piper PA28	Injuries:	1 Fatal, 2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

On February 2, 2020, about 1355 mountain standard time, a Piper PA28-150 airplane, N5969W, collided with terrain shortly after takeoff from the Fremont County Airport (1V6), Florence, Colorado. The flight instructor and student pilot were both seriously injured, and the passenger was fatally injured. The airplane was substantially damaged. The airplane was registered to and operated by a private individual under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 as an instructional flight. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the flight, which operated without a flight plan. The local flight had departed the airport at the time of the accident.

According to preliminary information, the airplane departed runway 29 at 1V6. An eyewitness watched the airplane's takeoff roll and remarked that the airplane's nose wheel appeared to lift from the runway, then settled back down. The airplane used almost the full length of the runway's 5,399 ft surface. The airplane did not climb and disappeared from sight, due to descending terrain from the runway's edge.

The wreckage was located in the high desert terrain. The initial impact point consisted of a scuff, consistent with the left wing and a divot containing the nose wheel at the base of a rising dirt berm. The airplane came to rest on the aft side of the berm, facing the opposite direction of travel. All major airplane components were found at the accident site.

The airplane was retained for further examination.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N5969W
Model/Series:	PA28 150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	No		
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KPUB, 4720 ft msl	Observation Time:	1350 MST
Distance from Accident Site:	30 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C / -22° C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	14 knots / 27 knots, 220°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.73 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Florence, CO (1V6)	Destination:	Florence, CO (1V6)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal, 2 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	38.430833, -105.118056

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jason T Aguilera
Additional Participating Persons:	Sean Shambo; FAA FSDO; Denver, CO Kathryn Whitaker; Piper Aircraft; Phoenix, AZ Troy Helgeson; Lycoming Engines; Williamsport, PA
Note:	The NTSB traveled to the scene of this accident.