



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Mesquite, NV	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR12CA069
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12/17/2011, 1300 PST	<b>Registration:</b>	N275PM
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 208	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of engine power (total)	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Skydiving		

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## Analysis

Prior to the flight, the pilot fueled the airplane with 16 gallons of jet fuel. He planned to make two local flights carrying skydivers aloft. During the second skydiving flight, he delayed releasing the skydivers due to traffic in the area. As he turned the airplane back toward the drop zone, the airplane's engine experienced a total loss of power. The pilot signaled the skydivers to exit the airplane, feathered the propeller, and executed a forced landing to the runway. The airplane landed long, went off the end of the runway, across a road, and finally came to rest on a golf course. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the wings. The pilot stated that the airplane and engine had no mechanical failures or malfunctions during the flight. He also stated that the cause of the loss of engine power was poor fuel management and fuel exhaustion.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's improper preflight planning, which resulted in a loss of engine power due to fuel exhaustion.

## Findings

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<b>Aircraft</b>	Power plant - Failure (Cause) Fuel - Fluid level (Cause)
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Fuel planning - Pilot (Cause)

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Maneuvering	Fuel exhaustion Loss of engine power (total) (Defining event)
Landing	Landing area overshoot

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	25, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 With Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	09/06/2011
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	04/19/2011
Flight Time:	1022 hours (Total, all aircraft), 131 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N275PM
Model/Series:	208	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	20800119
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	10
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	8000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A SER
Registered Owner:	SPOKANE TURBINE SKYDIVING LLC	Rated Power:	750 hp
Operator:	Skydive Mesquite	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSGU	Observation Time:	1255 PST
Distance from Accident Site:	27 Nautical Miles	Direction from Accident Site:	45°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	9° C / -6° C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	4 knots, 240°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.28 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Mesquite, NV (K67L)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:	Mesquite, NV (K67L)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	PST	Type of Airspace:	

## Airport Information

Airport:	Mesquite Airport (K67L)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5100 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced Landing; Traffic Pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	36.833056, -114.055833 (est)

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Van McKenny	Adopted Date:	03/08/2012
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Castillo; Federal Aviation Administration; Las Vegas, NV		
Publish Date:	03/08/2012		
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=82532">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=82532</a>		

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