Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	Chandler, AZ	**Accident Number:**	WPR26FA281
Date & Time:	July 28, 2026, 19:49 Local	**Registration:**	N9062J
Aircraft:	Piper PA-28-180	**Injuries:**	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

On July 28, 2026, about 1949 mountain standard time, a Piper PA-28-180, N9062J, was destroyed when it was involved in an accident near Chandler, Arizona. The pilot was fatally injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

Preliminary ADS-B data obtained from a commercially available source showed that the airplane departed runway 22R at Chandler Municipal Airport (CHD), Chandler, Arizona, at 1948:10. The airplane continued southwest on the departure leg and climbed to a reported GPS altitude of about 1,800 ft. The final recorded ADS-B point, at 1949:31, showed a reported ground speed of 45 knots and a descent rate of about 130 ft per minute.

Witnesses at a park about 0.5 miles southeast of the accident site reported observing the airplane flying southwest when they heard the engine sound cease. They stated that the airplane then entered a sharp right turn and descended rapidly. A dashcam video provided to the NTSB depicted the airplane in a steep right bank and rapid descent before ground impact.

The airplane impacted a commercial plumbing-supply yard about 0.7 miles from the departure end of runway 22L at CHD. The first identified impact point was a ground scar about 30 ft southwest of the main wreckage. The main wreckage was oriented on an approximate magnetic heading of 097° at an elevation of about 1,226 ft mean sea level. The forward fuselage rested on the concrete lot, while the aft fuselage and empennage extended across a curb into an adjacent dirt-and-gravel area. The engine, fuselage, cabin, wings, and empennage exhibited extensive thermal damage.

The wreckage was recovered to a secure location for further examination.

This information is preliminary and subject to change.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	**Registration:**	N9062J
Model/Series:	PA-28-180	**Aircraft Category:**	Airplane
Amateur Built:			
Operator:	On file	**Operating Certificate(s) Held:**	None
Operator Designator Code:			

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	**Condition of Light:**	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KCHD,1243 ft msl	**Observation Time:**	19:00 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles	**Temperature/Dew Point:**	41°C /15°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 19000 ft AGL	**Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:**	/ None
Lowest Ceiling:		**Visibility:**	10 miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.7 inches Hg	**Type of Flight Plan Filed:**	NONE
Departure Point:	Chandler, AZ (CHD)	**Destination:**	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	**Aircraft Damage:**	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:		**Aircraft Fire:**	On-ground
Ground Injuries:		**Aircraft Explosion:**	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal	**Latitude, Longitude:**	33.257762,-111.8323

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Beckett, Joel
Additional Participating Persons:	Reed Cook; Federal Aviation Administration; Scottsdale, AZ Jon Hirsch; Piper Aircraft; Vero Beach, FL Mark Platt; Lycoming Engines; Williamsport, PA
Investigation Class:	Class 3
Note:	

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