



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Central Region
Denver, Colorado

Investigator's Statement

CEN17FA100
Galveston, Texas
Bell 206B-III, N978RH
February 6, 2017

Investigator-in-Charge: Arnold W. Scott
Senior Air Safety Investigator
Denver, Colorado

On February 7, 2017, this investigator met with representatives of Republic Helicopters, Inc., and reviewed pilot and maintenance records. The following was noted:

The pilot was hired by Republic Helicopters on March 31, 2015.

The pilot had logged a total of 1,702 flight hours, 1,552 hours of which were in rotorcraft; 1,452 hours of which were in the Bell 206; 600 hours were in Bell models 222, 230, and 430 helicopters; and 150 hours were in single-engine airplanes. He had also logged 220 hours in simulated instrument conditions, and 4 hours in actual instrument conditions. No night flying time was noted in any category.

The pilot's last FAA and company proficiency checks were completed on March 1, 2016, in a Bell 206 helicopter.

The last airframe annual inspection was completed on August 31, 2016, at 15,138.9 total hours. At the time of the accident, the airframe had accrued 15,287.2 total hours. The transponder and pitot-static system were IFR-certified on September 30, 2016. At the last 100-hour inspection, the engine had accumulated 13,645.4 total hours and 24,394 cycles. The last compressor and turbine overhauls were accomplished at 11,872.8 and 13,118.3 hours, respectively.