



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Aaron M. Sauer
Aviation Accident Investigator
Central Region

Date: May 21, 2018
Person Contacted: Mr. Val Harmon
NTSB Accident Number: CEN18FA182

Narrative:

Mr. Harmon, who has a residence near the accident site, was interviewed near the accident site. Mr. Harmon stated he and a friend heard a boom/crack while they were in their back yards and responded to the accident location. He stated a fire was surrounding the helicopter, and the pilot was waving from his location for assistance. Mr. Harmon and his friend, traveled to the accident site with an ATV; however, the terrain was difficult to navigate due to marsh. They then went and obtained a different vehicle to aid in getting to the location. During this time, first responders and fire department personnel arrived to assist. Mr. Harmon, friends, and an EMT transported the pilot from the accident site. During the transport, the pilot stated that he “hooked a skid and could not get it out.” He stated that he could not believe that he killed the passenger. The witnesses stated he kept his head down and appeared to be “heartbroken” during the ride to the ambulance staging area. They also stated the aft cargo passenger was screaming in pain and was assisted by first responders.