

Timeline statement for 10-Mar-2019 helicopter crash Nuri van Hattum (SAR helicopter PIC)

->13:05 Alerted for overdue missing helicopter

Proceeded with normal response process for SAR callout. Some confusion on exact coordinates or last known location, but not unusual during a SAR callout.

->13:13 Rotor start

Established contact on CTAF with company aircraft located on scene shortly after startup.

->13:17 Start taxi

Shortly after takeoff we established TCAS contact with company aircraft on scene and noted the weather was acceptable VFR weather, broken clouds above 1000ft and at least 10 miles visibility winds directly out of the south. We had to maneuver to avoid flocks of birds en-route to scene. We established visual contact with the company aircraft on scene about 3 miles out (he was below 100ft AGL searching the marsh and lake).

->13:28 Arrival on scene

->13:29 shortly after arriving on scene we located the body of the passenger and determined he was deceased. A crew decision was made to delay recovery of the passenger in the interest of locating the pilot.

->13:30 Established contact with USCG Sector New Orleans on CH 21A and began informing them of details.

->13:29 – 14:00 Searching for the pilot with other company aircraft. A crew decision was made based on the search results and wreckage details that the pilot was likely located in the wreckage or in the mud under the wreckage.

->14:06 Deployed rescue swimmer to search the wreckage for the pilot.

->14:16 Rescue swimmer reported by radio that he is not able to locate the pilot.

->14:18 Recovered the body of the passenger by rescue basket

->14:24 Recovered rescue swimmer

->14:25 Informed the company that we had on body on board and were unable to locate and believed the second body was underwater. Company informed us to bring the body back to base and standby for additional instructions.

14:26 Departed scene back to SAR base

14:41 Stop taxi

14:43 Shutdown