



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Aaron M. Sauer
Aviation Accident Investigator
Central Region

Date: July 27, 2020
Person Contacted: Passenger – Gavin Bruno
NTSB Accident Number: CEN20LA273

Narrative:

Mr. Bruno stated that he recently had been discharged from the hospital following treatment for injuries sustained in the accident. Mr. Bruno was employed with Chesapeake Bay Helicopters for about 2 years and was currently working as a subcontractor with Air Cam. He reported his work schedule was typically 21 days on shift and 21 days off shift.

The accident flight departed the Rifle airport about 0700-0730 and flew to a nearby electrical substation. The pilot began a hover over the substation while he and Mr. Bruno came up with a plan for the aerial observation flight. While in the low-altitude hover, the helicopter began swaying left and right, then began spinning in a counter-clockwise direction. Shortly thereafter, the helicopter impacted terrain. Mr. Bruno recalled laying outside the helicopter and unable to get up. He attempted to get the attention of the pilot (who was also laying outside the helicopter) and then crawled about 5 feet before being met by rescue personnel.

Mr. Bruno stated he had flown with the accident pilot on past flights and had no concerns or issues and also stated he never felt unsafe.