

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

This form to be used for reporting civil and public aircraft accidents and incidents

BASIC INFORMATION

Accident/Incident Location

Nearest City/Place: Ellisville State: MS

ZIP: 39437 Country: USA

Latitude: 31.611837N Longitude: -89.086378W

(Enter in decimal degrees or degrees:minutes:seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 12/29/2020 Local Time: 08:38

mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: Central

Collision with Other Aircraft: ☐ Midair ☐ On-ground ☐ None

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N103SU

Manufacturer: Hughes Helicopters

Model: 369D

Serial Number: 210895D

Year of Manufacture: 1981

Amateur-Built: ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes: ☐ Kit/Plans Make: _____
☐ Original Design

- ☐ IFR-Equipped and Certified
☐ Commercial Space Flight
☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: _____ lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: _____ lbs

Number of Seats: _____ Flight Crew Seats: _____

Cabin Crew Seats: _____ Passenger Seats: _____

Number of Engines: _____

Category of Aircraft

- ☐ Airplane
☐ Balloon
☐ Blimp/Dirigible
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift
☐ Rocket
☐ Ultralight
☐ Unknown

Type of Airworthiness Certificate

(Check all that apply)

Standard

- ☒ Normal
☐ Aerobatic
☐ Balloon
☐ Commuter
☐ Transport
☐ Utility

Special

- ☐ Restricted
☐ Limited
☐ Provisional
☐ Special Flight
☐ Experimental
☐ Special Light-Sport
☐ Experimental Light-Sport

- ☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ None ☐ Unknown

Landing Gear

(Check all that apply)

☐ Retractable

☐ Tricycle

☐ Tailwheel

☐ Amphibian

☒ High Skid

☐ Emergency Float

☐ Skid

☐ Float

☐ Ski

☐ Hull

☐ Ski/Wheel

☐ Other Launch/Recovery System

☐ None

☐ Unknown

Engine Type (Select one)

- ☐ Reciprocating ☐ Liquid Rocket
☒ Turbo Shaft ☐ Solid Rocket
☐ Turbo Prop ☐ Hybrid Rocket
☐ Turbo Jet ☐ None
☐ Turbo Fan ☐ Unknown
☐ Electric

Fuel System Type (Reciprocating)

- ☐ Carburetor ☐ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Series	Manufacturer's Serial Number	Date of Mfg. <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>	Rated Power ☒ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng. 1	Rolls Royce	RR250-C20B	CAE-835942	02/24/86	420	3368.9	36.6	528.9
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

- ☒ 100-Hour ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ AAIP ☐ Conditional Inspection
☐ Annual ☐ Unknown

Date Last Inspection: 12/20/2020

mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 12801.5 hrs

hours measured at (Select one)

- ☒ Last Inspection ☐ Time of Accident/Incident

Type of Maintenance Program (Select one)

- ☒ Annual
☐ Conditional (Amateur-built only)
☐ Manufacturer's Inspection Program
☐ Other Approved Inspection Program (AAIP)
☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ Other, specify: _____

Description of Fire Extinguishing System

- ☒ None
☐ Specify: _____

Propeller 1

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Propeller 2

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

ELT Installed: ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

ELT Manufacturer: _____

Model or Part No.: _____

TSO No.: ☐ C91 (121.5 MHz) ☐ C91a (121.5 MHz)
☐ C126 (406 MHz)

Was ELT still mounted in aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Was ELT still connected to antenna? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did ELT Activate? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If activated:

Did ELT Aid in Locating Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If not activated:

- Indicate Reason: ☐ Impact Damage
☐ Fire Damage
☐ Battery Expired/Damaged
☐ Unknown

Additional Equipment (Check all that apply)

- ☒ ADS-B
☐ Airframe Parachute
☐ Angle of Attack Indicator
☐ Autopilot
☐ Data Recorder
☒ Electronic Flight Bag or Handheld Device
☐ Electronic Multifunction Display
☐ Electronic Primary Flight Display
☒ Handheld GPS
☐ Heads Up Display
☒ Onboard Weather
☒ Satellite Tracking Device
☐ Stall Warning System
☐ Video Recording Device
☐ Other, Specify: _____

OWNER/OPERATOR INFORMATION**Registered Aircraft Owner**Name: Signature Property Holdings LLCFractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoCity: WilmingtonState: DEZIP: 19801Country: USA**Operator of Aircraft**☐ Same As Registered Owner☐ Same Address as Registered OwnerName: Signature Utility Services, LLCCity: BirminghamDoing Business As: Signature Utility Services, LLCState: ALZIP: 35243

Air Carrier/Operator Designator (4 Character Code): _____

Country: USA**Operating Certificates Held**

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
☐ Flag Carrier Operating Certificate (FAR 121)
☐ Supplemental
☐ Air Cargo
☐ Foreign Air Carriers (FAR 129)
☒ Rotorcraft External Load (FAR 133)
☐ Commuter Air Carrier (FAR 135)
☐ On-Demand Air Taxi (FAR 135)
☐ Commercial Air Tour (FAR 136)
☐ Agricultural Aircraft (FAR 137)
☐ Pilot School (FAR 141)
☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ Commercial Space Transportation
Experimental Permit
☐ Commercial Space Transportation License
☐ Other Operator of Large Aircraft

Regulation Flight Conducted Under

- ☐ FAR 91 ☐ FAR 129 ☐ FAR 415
☐ FAR 103 ☒ FAR 133 ☐ FAR 431
☐ FAR 121 ☐ FAR 135 ☐ FAR 435
☐ FAR 125 ☐ FAR 137 ☐ FAR 437

- ☐ FAR 91 Special Flight
☐ Non-US, Commercial
☐ Non-US, Non-commercial

☐ Public Aircraft (Select one)

- ☐ Armed Forces
☐ Federal
☐ State
☐ Local

☐ Unknown**Revenue Operation for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135**

(Select one for each group)

- ☐ Scheduled or Commuter ☐ Domestic
☐ Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi ☐ International

- ☐ Passenger
☐ Cargo
☐ Mail Contract Only

Purpose of Flight for FAR 91, 103, 133, 137

(Select one)

- ☐ Aerial Application ☐ Firefighting ☐ Unknown
☐ Aerial Observation ☐ Flight Test
☐ Air Drop ☐ Glider Tow
☐ Air Race/Show ☐ Instructional
☐ Banner Tow ☐ Other Work Use
☐ Business ☐ Personal
☐ Executive/Corporate ☐ Positioning
☒ External Load ☐ Skydiving
☐ Ferry

Revenue Sightseeing Flight☐ Yes ☒ No**Air Medical Flight**☐ Yes ☒ No**AIRPORT INFORMATION** (Fill in if accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 miles of an airport)Airport Name: Off Airport

Distance From Airport Center: _____ sm

Airport Identifier: _____

Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true

Proximity to Airport: ☒ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/A

Airport Elevation: _____ ft. msl

Runway Information

Runway ID: _____ (L/R/C) Length: _____ ft Width: _____ ft

Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Asphalt ☐ Grass/Turf ☐ Macadam ☐ Water
☐ Concrete ☐ Gravel ☐ Metal/Wood
☐ Dirt ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Unknown

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Dry ☐ Snow-Compacted ☐ Water-Calm
☐ Holes ☐ Snow-Crusted ☐ Water-Choppy
☐ Ice Covered ☐ Snow-Dry ☐ Water-Glassy
☐ Rough ☐ Snow-Wet ☐ Wet
☐ Rubber Deposits ☐ Soft
☐ Slush-Covered ☐ Vegetation ☐ Unknown

Approach/Departure Segment (Select one)

- ☐ Taxi ☐ VFR Departure ☐ On Instrument Approach ☐ Downwind ☐ Low Approach
☐ Takeoff ☐ IFR Departure Procedure/Clearance ☐ Landing ☐ Base ☐ Go Around
☐ Initial Climb ☐ Final ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown)
☐ Crosswind ☐ Unknown

IFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☒ None
☐ ADF/NDB ☐ PAR ☐ MLS ☐ Practice
☐ SDF ☐ Sidestep ☐ LDA ☐ GPS
☐ VOR/TVOR ☐ ILS ☐ ASR
☐ VOR/DME ☐ Localizer Only ☐ Visual
☐ TACAN ☐ LOC-back course ☐ Contact
☐ RNAV ☐ Circling
☐ Unknown

VFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☒ None
☐ Traffic Pattern ☐ Stop and Go
☐ Straight-In ☐ Touch and Go
☐ Valley/Terrain Following ☐ Simulated Forced Landing
☐ Go Around ☐ Forced Landing
☐ Full Stop ☐ Precautionary Landing
☐ Unknown

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 1" INFORMATION**"Flight Crewmember 1" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident**

☒ Pilot ☐ Co-Pilot ☐ Student Pilot ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Check Pilot ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 1" was pilot flying ☒ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 1" Identification

First Name: Jason

City of Residence: Ormond Beach

Middle Initial: D

State: FL ZIP: 32174

Last Name: Krakowiak

Country: USA

Age at time of Accident/Incident: 40 Date of Birth: [REDACTED] mm/dd/yyyy

Certificate Number: [REDACTED]

Degree of Injury

☐ None ☒ Fatal
☐ Minor ☐ Unknown
☐ Serious

Seat Occupied

☒ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown
☐ Right ☐ Rear
☐ Center ☐ Single

Restraint Type**Available**

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☒ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Used

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Inflatable Restraints

☒ Not Installed
☐ Installed
☐ Not Deployed
☐ Deployed
☐ Unknown

Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None ☒ Flight Instructor ☒ Commercial ☐ US Military
☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign
☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer

Principal Occupation

☒ Pilot
☐ Other
☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate

☐ None ☐ Class 3
☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)
☒ Class 2 ☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate Validity

☒ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown
☐ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A
☐ Special Issuance

Date of Last Medical

01/14/2020
mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

None

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

None

**Date of Last Flight Review
or Equivalent, Including
FAR 121/135 Checks:**

04/03/2019
mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: Hughes

Model: 369D

Airplane Rating(s)
(Check all that apply)

☒ None
☐ Single-Engine Land
☐ Single-Engine Sea
☐ Multiengine Land
☐ Multiengine Sea

Other Aircraft Rating(s)
(Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airship
☐ Balloon
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instrument Rating(s)
(Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instructor Rating(s)
(Check all that apply)

☐ None ☐ Instrument Airplane
☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☒ Instrument Helicopter
☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☒ Helicopter
☐ Gyroplane ☐ Glider
☐ Powered Lift ☐ Sport

Type Ratings

BV-107, BV-234

Student Endorsements (Include dates)**Flight Time** (Enter appropriate
number of hours in each box)

	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	5247	392						5247		
Pilot in Command (PIC)	3485	392						3485		
Time as Instructor	UNK	UNK						UNK		
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days										
Last 30 Days										
Last 24 Hours										

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 2" INFORMATION																																																																																																				
"Flight Crewmember 2" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident ☐ Pilot ☐ Co-Pilot ☐ Student Pilot ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Check Pilot ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ Other Flight Crew																																																																																																				
"Flight Crewmember 2" was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No																																																																																																				
"Flight Crewmember 2" Identification First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Country: _____ Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ Date of Birth: _____ mm/dd/yyyy Certificate Number: _____																																																																																																				
Degree of Injury ☐ None ☐ Fatal ☐ Minor ☐ Unknown ☐ Serious			Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown ☐ Right ☐ Rear ☐ Center ☐ Single			Restraint Type Available ☐ None ☐ Lap only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown			Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown																																																																																											
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Principal Occupation ☐ Pilot ☐ Other ☐ Unknown		Medical Certificate ☐ None ☐ Class 3 ☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only) ☐ Class 2 ☐ Unknown			Medical Certificate Limitations 			Medical Certificate Special Issuance 																																																																																												
Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: _____ mm/dd/yyyy				Flight Review Aircraft Make: _____ Model: _____																																																																																																
Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Single-Engine Land ☐ Single-Engine Sea ☐ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea			Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Airship ☐ Balloon ☐ Glider ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift			Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Airplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift			Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift ☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport																																																																																											
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<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2" style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)</th> <th rowspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">All Aircraft</th> <th rowspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">This Make & Model</th> <th rowspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Airplane Single Engine</th> <th rowspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Airplane Multiengine</th> <th rowspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Night</th> <th colspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Instrument</th> <th rowspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Rotorcraft</th> <th rowspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Glider</th> <th rowspan="2" style="padding: 5px;">Lighter Than Air</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="padding: 5px;">Actual</th> <th style="padding: 5px;">Simulated</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Total Time</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Pilot in Command (PIC)</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Time as Instructor</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">This Make/Model</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Last 90 Days</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Last 30 Days</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Last 24 Hours</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>											Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air	Actual	Simulated	Total Time											Pilot in Command (PIC)											Time as Instructor											This Make/Model											Last 90 Days											Last 30 Days											Last 24 Hours										
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ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CREWMEMBERS (Exclusive of cabin crew, complete the following information)

Crew Name and Address	Seat Occupied	Injury
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____	☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer	Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No	Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs	

Crew Name and Address	Seat Occupied	Injury
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____	☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown
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Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No	Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs	

PASSENGER(S) / OTHER PERSONNEL (Include cabin crew; continue on separate sheet if necessary)

Name and Address	Seat	Injury	Restraint Type	Inflatable Restraints	Age
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown
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FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point

Airport ID: MS92
City: Ellisville
State: MS
Country: USA

Time of Departure

Time: 08:30
Time Zone: Central

Destination

Airport ID: Off Airport
City: 31.638268N, -89.101637W
State: Mississippi
Country: USA

Type Flight Plan Filed

☐ None ☐ VFR/IFR
☒ Company VFR ☐ IFR
☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown
☐ VFR
Activated? ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check all that apply)

☒ None ☐ Special VFR ☐ Special IFR ☐ VFR Flight Following ☐ Cruise
☐ VFR ☐ IFR ☐ VFR On Top ☐ Traffic Advisory ☐ Unknown / NA

Airspace where the accident/incident occurred (Check all that apply)

☐ Class A ☒ Class G ☐ Military Operations Area (MOA) ☐ Special
☐ Class B ☐ Demo Area ☐ Airport Advisory Area ☐ Air Traffic Control Area
☐ Class C ☐ Warning Area ☐ Jet Training Area ☐ Unknown
☐ Class D ☐ Prohibited Area ☐ TRSA
☐ Class E ☐ Restricted Area ☐ FAR 93

Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence:

469 ft msl

WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE

Source of Pilot Weather Information

(Check all that apply)

☐ National Weather Service ☐ Company
☐ Flight Service Station ☐ Military
☐ TV/Radio ☒ Internet
☐ Automated Report ☐ None
☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS) ☐ Unknown
☒ On-Board Weather

Weather Observation Facility

Facility ID: _____
Observation Time: _____
Time Zone: _____
Distance from Accident Site: _____ nm
Direction from Accident Site: _____ degrees true

Basic Conditions

☒ VMC
☐ IMC
☐ Unknown

Light Condition

☐ Dawn ☐ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown
☒ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night

Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition

☒ Clear ☐ Thin Broken
☐ Few ☐ Thin Overcast
☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown
☐ Scattered

Lowest Cloud Condition Height

_____ ft agl

Ceiling

☒ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured
☐ Broken ☐ Indefinite
☐ Overcast ☐ Unknown

Ceiling Height

_____ ft agl

Temperature: _____ (C) or 54 (F)

Dew Point: _____ (C) or _____ (F)

Altimeter Setting: _____ in. Hg
or _____ MB

Wind Direction

☒ Variable

-or-
Direction: _____ degrees true

Wind Speed

☒ Calm
☐ Light and Variable

-or-
Speed: _____ kts

Wind Gusts

☒ Not Gusting

-or-
Speed: _____ kts

Visibility 10+ miles

RVR: _____ feet

RVV: _____ miles

Density Altitude: _____ ft

Intensity of Precipitation

☐ Light
☐ Moderate
☐ Heavy
☒ N/A
☐ Unknown

Type of Precipitation (Check all that apply)

☒ None ☐ Drizzle ☐ Freezing Rain
☐ Rain ☐ Ice Pellets ☐ Snow Shower
☐ Snow ☐ Snow Pellets ☐ Ice Pellets Shower
☐ Hail ☐ Snow Grains ☐ Freezing Drizzle
☐ Rain Showers ☐ Ice Crystals

Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply)

☒ None ☐ Fog
☐ Blowing Dust ☐ Ground Fog
☐ Blowing Sand ☐ Haze
☐ Blowing Snow ☐ Ice Fog
☐ Blowing Spray ☐ Smoke
☐ Dust ☐ Unknown

Icing Forecast

Amount Type
☒ None ☐ N/A
☐ Trace ☐ Rime
☐ Light ☐ Clear
☐ Moderate ☐ Mixed
☐ Severe ☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown

Icing Actual

Amount Type
☒ None ☐ N/A
☐ Trace ☐ Rime
☐ Light ☐ Clear
☐ Moderate ☐ Mixed
☐ Severe ☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown

Turbulence

Type (Check all that apply) Severity
☒ None ☐ Light
☐ Clear Air ☐ Moderate
☐ Terrain-Induced ☐ Severe
☐ Convective Turbulence ☐ Extreme

NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident:

NONE

DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT AND OTHER PROPERTY**Aircraft Damage**

- ☐ None ☐ Substantial
☐ Minor ☒ Destroyed
 ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Fire

- ☐ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Fire at Unknown Time
☒ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Explosion

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Explosion at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property *(Use additional sheet if necessary)*

The helicopter crashed into a thick wooded area and impacted several trees on the way down. A portion of the tail boom was broken off the rest of the helicopter and settled about 40' east of the wreck. The helicopter was destroyed once it impacted the ground and the post crash fire consumed 90% of the wreckage. The bottom 120' aerial saw settled south of the helicopter wreck on the forest floor upside down. The lowest connection pipe broke 6" above where it attaches to the saw cage. The middle and top pipe were bent and hung in some lower tree branches up until the helicopter wreck.

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF FLIGHT *(Please type or print in ink)*

Describe what occurred in chronological order, including circumstances leading to and nature of accident/incident. Describe terrain and include wreckage distribution sketch if pertinent. Attach extra sheets if needed. State departure time and location, services obtained, and intended destination. Provide as much detail as possible.

The pilot was ferrying the helicopter to begin aerial tree trimming operations along the South Jones to Laurel East 230KV transmission line. He picked up the 120' aerial saw with 400 pounds of fuel on board from the landing/refueling zone at Purvis Field (31.567800N, -89.090818W) at 8:30AM for his first flight of the day. At 8:33AM at the request of the property owner, the pilot trimmed some small limbs along the side of the landing zone before departing on a north heading to continue trimming trees along the transmission line right-of-way. Intent was to trim trees along the transmission right-of-way and land for fuel at the next landing zone (31.638268N, -89.101637W) at or before 9:30AM. The transmission line runs in a north-south direction, and the first trimming area was 2.7 miles to the north of the Purvis Field landing zone on the west side of the right-of-way. Ground Support Specialist (GSS) Clay Goff arrived at the west side of the right-of-way in his pickup truck and positioned himself on the south end of the trimming area at 8:35AM. While this happened, the pilot approached the work area from the south as he flew northbound over the tree line on the east side of the transmission line. Clay used the radio to begin calling out deerstands in the right-of-way for the pilot to avoid cutting with the aerial saw, and the pilot verbally confirms that he has the hazards in sight. Clay estimates that the bottom of the saw, which hangs vertically from the belly of the helicopter, was flying 40-50' above the tree tops on the east side of the transmission line while still on its northbound course. At 8:38AM the pilot announced over the radio that he was "making an emergency landing." Clay immediately looked to the aircraft after the emergency landing call and described seeing it make a quick forward descent until the saw disappeared into the east tree line. Once the saw began contacting trees it quickly became entangled and the forward momentum of the helicopter caused it to arc forward and nose-down into the trees and ultimately strike the ground. The saw layed on the forest floor upside down, breaking the lower connector pipe, and the middle and top pipes bent and tangled in the trees up to where the helicopter crashed. The force of the helicopter striking the trees and impacting the ground destroyed it, caused the aircraft to catch fire, and killed the pilot. Crash site coordinates (31.611863N, -89.086439W).

Clay was positioned 3/4 of a mile south (31.601463N, -89.088860W) of where the helicopter went down. He immediately alerted Landing Zone General (LZG) Josh Groves of the crash via the radio at 8:38AM and got back into his pickup truck. The right-of-way had streams and ponds between Clay and the crash site so he had to get back to the main road and drive around to another access area on the east side of the line to get to the helicopter. Once Clay found an access route (31.615885N, -89.083471W), which was about 1/4 of a mile northeast of the crash site, and could provide first responders coordinates to the crash site he dialed 911 at 8:43AM. The 911 operator told Clay that his phone was being pinged to relay his location to the first responders. Clay drove as close as possible to the crash site before proceeding on foot with a 5-pound fire extinguisher and a first aid kit in hand. Wade Camp, an arborist contracted by the utility, was positioned in the right-of-way 3/10ths of a mile to the north of the helicopter at the time of the crash (31.616559N, -89.086223W) and was able to access the crash site a few seconds before Clay. As both of them arrived at the scene, Clay handed Wade his cell phone so Wade could continue talking to the 911 operator while Clay used the 5-pound fire extinguisher to battle the post crash fire. Clay quickly emptied the fire extinguisher over the flames, however, it could not control the growing flames and it was obvious that the pilot was already deceased within the wreck. At this point Clay and Wade made the decision to back away from the wreck to a safe distance and wait for the emergency responders to arrive.

At this time LZG Josh Groves was now arriving at the access point off the main road in the service truck. Josh contacted Clay over the radio asking if he needed another fire extinguisher, the first aid kit, or the AED off of the service truck. Clay responds and instructs Josh to wait by the main road and flag the emergency responders to the crash site. At 8:56AM Josh called Signature management to alert them of the crash and management immediately grounded the rest of the fleet and began a safety stand down. At 9:01AM the fire department arrived on scene and began extinguishing the post crash fire. It took 45 minutes to extinguish the fire due to accessibility issues with the crash site being in a thick wooded area 1/4 mile off the main road, and the fuel and aircraft components acting as an accelerant. Once the flames were extinguished, the pilots' body was recovered and the scene was turned over to the investigators.

RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

Company management has discussed options for mitigating the amount of exposure with an external load.

MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION/FAILURE (If more space is needed, continue on separate sheet)Was there Mechanical Malfunction/Failure? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(If yes, list the name of the part, manufacturer, part no., serial no., and describe the failure.)

Currently Under Investigation

Total Time/Cycles
On Part

_____ Hours

_____ Cycles

Time Since This Part
Inspected/Overhauled

_____ Hours

FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATION

Fuel on Board at Last Takeoff

(Convert from pounds, as necessary)

60 _____ Gallons

Fuel Type

☐ 80/87☐ 115/145☐ Jet B☐ Other, specify _____☐ 100 Low Lead☒ Jet A☐ JP8☐ 100/130☐ Jet A-1☐ Automotive

Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure

EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFTWas an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Method of Exit – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location

A third party was contracted to remove the wreckage once it was released by the FAA.

OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for other aircraft)

Aircraft Registration Number

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Damage to Other Aircraft

☐ Destroyed☐ Minor☐ Substantial☐ None

Registered Owner of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

Pilot of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print in ink)

Use this space if additional space is needed for any answers.

Flight times are current as of 05/2/2020 (last pilot experience form filled out for the company)

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Date of this Report

01/03/2021

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: _____

Signature: _____

— or — ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name: Andrew Dale

Title: Director of Flight Operations

Signature: _____

— or — ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No.
CEN21LA102

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office
CEN

Name of Investigator
Sauer

Date Report Received
01/03/21