

Brian L. Harrison

French Settlement, La. 70733

June 15, 2021

Re: Incident-involving N202SM

Please accept this letter as an official statement regarding the incident that occurred on 6/10/2021 involving N202SM.

On 6/10/2021 at approximately 1500 hours I was located at the Port of South Louisiana Regional Airport refueling N202SM. After refueling the helicopter, I entered the pilot's seat and started the aircraft. After all gauges reached the normal operating temperatures, I conducted a magneto check, and then increased the throttle until the governor took over. I brought the helicopter to a hover, and after making a radio call, I entered the taxiway and eventually runway 35 for departure to conduct traffic pattern exercises. Upon turning onto runway 35, I increased power and applied forward cyclic. I was approximately 5-10 feet above the runway and as my speed increased to approximately 20 knots the aircraft's engine lost power after making a sputtering sound. The sound was similar to when the throttle mixture is leaned to the point of fuel starvation and the engine starts to sputter. The aircraft yawed briefly to the left, and the skids made contact with the runway and the aircraft slid into the grassy area.

Upon coming to a stop, I realized that the skids were damaged, and the main rotor blades had made contact with the ground as well. I sustained zero injuries during the event.

I then exited the aircraft, made calls to the proper authorities, and waited their arrival. While waiting I received a phone call from a representative from the FAA, Mr. Dean Johnson. Mr. Johnson asked me several questions including "was the engine still running when you came to a stop?" As far as I can remember, the engine was not running because I did not have to shut it down. The only thing I did after coming to a stop and realizing what had happened was apply pressure to the rotor brake to stop the blades from spinning.

This statement best describes the events of 6/10/2021 as I remember them. Should anything else come to mind, I will notify the person(s) investigating this incident.

Respectfully,

Brian Harrison