



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Investigator name: Shaun Williams
Mode: Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Region: Central

Date: August 26, 2021
Person Contacted: Victor Guillory
NTSB Accident Number: CEN21LA285

Narrative:

On August 20, 2021, about 0430 Central daylight time, a Robinson Helicopters R44, N744RB, impacted the waters of the Mississippi River and sank before being recovered. Mr. Guillory was the pilot in command of the helicopter at the time of the accident.

He stated that he had departed the Lafayette Regional Airport, Lafayette, Louisiana, about 0340 to fly over some construction sites. As he approached a site near New Roads, Louisiana, he noticed some loose construction debris, so he flew past the site and turned around to approach from the opposite direction. Shortly thereafter, the engine began losing power and he was unable to maintain altitude.

He stated that he thought he landed in the False River. After exiting the helicopter, he got onto shore and began walking. He estimated he walked for about two hours before coming to the Mississippi River, at which time he entered the river to "cool off" from walking through briars and thorns. He stated that he floated about 20 miles in the river before being rescued.

END OF INTERVIEW