



Mitchell Gallo
Senior Air Safety Investigator
Aviation Safety - Central Region

Date: August 18, 2025

Subject: CEN25LA302, Record of Conversation

Contact: Robert Barber, Student Pilot, Robinson R22B, N4684S

Robert Barber stated that the accident flight was his first flight in a helicopter and thought it would be something fun to do. He stated that he was a fixed wing pilot with about 2,000 hrs of flight time. He said the accident flight was a discovery flight, during which the flight instructor would allow him to manipulate the cyclic control and then the flight instructor would take it away from him and then return the cyclic control to him to manipulate it again, while the altitude of N4684S was about 1 - 4 ft above the ground, which Robert Barber thought was "unnerving." Robert Barber said the helicopter skid caught the ground, and the helicopter impacted the ground.