

Incident with the N161PD

Pilot statement

I was conducting a flight training to a PIC candidate for the OH-58 helicopter. We were approaching Mercedita Airport, from the Northeast, and performed a 180 autorotation to a hover with power recovery, we were both at the controls. I was explaining the procedures to the PIC candidate and at hover taxi to the hangar, over the taxiway, I performed a hover autorotation, everything was normal, at this time the PIC candidate has the flight controls. We did a positive flight controls change, and starting to make a normal takeoff from the taxiway to demonstrate the PIC candidate the procedures of a simulated engine failure during takeoff. As we started to climb between 40 to 50 feet agl, and about 60 knots, I started explaining the procedures. While demonstrating a simulated engine failure to a running landing, I notice there were not enough power to recover the aircraft from the maneuver and decide to continue to a running landing. It lands somehow hard than normal, and the aircraft runs over the taxiway surface for about 300 feet's. After the aircraft came to a complete stop, I check the PIC candidate conditions, we were doing fine at that time, no injures at all. Also, I checked the aircraft and there were no vibrations or nothing abnormal, so I took it back to the hangar. After landing the helicopter, we performed a post flight inspection, and notice some structural damage to the tailboom section. I called the mechanic Sgt. Jose R. Colon, to inspect the aircraft.