



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

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Date: March 30, 2020
Subject: Review of Aviation Unit Training Manual
NTSB Accident Number: ERA17FA274

Review of the Virginia State Police Aviation Unit Training Manual revealed that it required its unit instructors to refer to the current *Federal Aviation Regulations* and the FAA's practical test standards for standardization.

Review of the FAA's practical test standards for rotorcraft revealed a required task for settling with power (vortex ring state) for which pilots were to (1) exhibit knowledge of the elements related to settling with power, (2) promptly recognize the onset of settling with power, and (3) use the appropriate recovery procedure.

Further review of the VSP aviation unit training manual also revealed that vortex ring state was not listed in any of the sample lesson plans for initial or recurrent training and that the associated maneuvers were considered to be optional.

A review of the accident pilot's training records from 2001 to the accident found no record of him receiving settling with power or vortex ring state recognition and recovery training on the accident helicopter make and model.