



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Daniel P. Boggs
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National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: November 2, 2016 at 1000 EDT
Person(s) Interviewed: Andrew Stephens— pilot
NTSB Case Number: ERA17LA032

Narrative:

Mr. Stephens was interviewed by telephone.

Mr. Andrew Stephens (pilot) stated he flew earlier in the day and a different field spraying a herbicide and made approximately 12 landings on a truck for more herbicide spray.

Mr. Stephens then stated he flew to a different field and sprayed one load of herbicide, once his load was empty he landed and waited for the loading crew to show up at the new field. Once the loading crew showed up and loaded the helicopter with 80 gallons of herbicide, (720lbs) he took off and climbed to about 50 feet. Approximately 200 yards away, he heard a loud bang and the helicopter fell to the ground. Mr. Stephens had a few cuts and bruises.