

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

This form to be used for reporting civil and public aircraft accidents and incidents

BASIC INFORMATION

Accident/Incident Location

Nearest City/Place: Orange Springs State: FL

ZIP: 32134 Country: United States

Latitude: 29 27' 46.39 N Longitude: 81 58' 41.43 W

(Enter in decimal degrees or degrees:minutes:seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 05/02/2017 Local Time: 1815
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: Eastern

Collision with Other Aircraft: ☐ Midair ☐ On-ground ☒ None

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N911GE

Manufacturer: Bell Helicopter

Model: 206B3/ TH-67

Serial Number: 5271

Year of Manufacture: 2001

Amateur-Built: ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes: ☐ Kit/Plans ☐ Original Design Make: _____

- ☐ IFR-Equipped and Certified
☐ Commercial Space Flight
☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: 3350 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 3250 lbs

Number of Seats: 4 Flight Crew Seats: 2

Cabin Crew Seats: 0 Passenger Seats: 2

Number of Engines: 1

Category of Aircraft

- ☐ Airplane
☐ Balloon
☐ Blimp/Dirigible
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift
☐ Rocket
☐ Ultralight
☐ Unknown

Type of Airworthiness Certificate

(Check all that apply)

Standard

- ☒ Normal
☐ Aerobatic
☐ Balloon
☐ Commuter
☐ Transport
☐ Utility

Special

- ☐ Restricted
☐ Limited
☐ Provisional
☐ Special Flight
☐ Experimental
☐ Special Light-Sport
☐ Experimental Light-Sport

- ☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ None ☐ Unknown

Landing Gear

(Check all that apply)

☐ Retractable

- ☐ Tricycle ☐ Tailwheel
☐ Amphibian ☒ High Skid
☐ Emergency Float ☐ Skid
☐ Float ☐ Ski
☐ Hull ☐ Ski/Wheel
☐ Other Launch/Recovery System
☐ None ☐ Unknown

Engine Type (Select one)

- ☐ Reciprocating ☐ Liquid Rocket
☒ Turbo Shaft ☐ Solid Rocket
☐ Turbo Prop ☐ Hybrid Rocket
☐ Turbo Jet ☐ None
☐ Turbo Fan ☐ Unknown
☐ Electric

Fuel System Type (Reciprocating)

- ☐ Carburetor ☐ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Series	Manufacturer's Serial Number	Date of Mfg. mm/dd/yyyy	Rated Power ☒ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng. 1	Rolls Royce	250/C20B	CAE-272818	04/24/2002	420	5413.6	76.4	76.4
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4		0						

Last Inspection Type

- ☒ 100-Hour ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ AAIP ☐ Conditional Inspection
☐ Annual ☐ Unknown

Date Last Inspection: 12/19/2016
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 8966.8 hrs

hours measured at (Select one)

- ☐ Last Inspection ☒ Time of Accident/Incident

Type of Maintenance Program (Select one)

- ☐ Annual
☐ Conditional (Amateur-built only)
☒ Manufacturer's Inspection Program
☐ Other Approved Inspection Program (AAIP)
☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ Other, specify: _____

Description of Fire Extinguishing System

- ☒ None
☐ Specify: _____

Propeller 1

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Propeller 2

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

ELT Installed: ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

ELT Manufacturer: ARTEX

Model or Part No.: C406-2HM

TSO No.: ☒ C91 (121.5 MHz) ☐ C91a (121.5 MHz)
☐ C126 (406 MHz)

Was ELT still mounted in aircraft? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Was ELT still connected to antenna? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Did ELT Activate? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If activated:

Did ELT Aid in Locating Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If not activated:

- Indicate Reason: ☐ Impact Damage
☐ Fire Damage
☐ Battery Expired/Damaged
☒ Unknown

Additional Equipment (Check all that apply)

- ☒ ADS-B
☐ Airframe Parachute
☐ Angle of Attack Indicator
☐ Autopilot
☐ Data Recorder
☒ Electronic Flight Bag or Handheld Device
☐ Electronic Multifunction Display
☐ Electronic Primary Flight Display
☐ Handheld GPS
☐ Heads Up Display
☐ Onboard Weather
☐ Satellite Tracking Device
☐ Stall Warning System
☐ Video Recording Device
☐ Other, Specify: _____

OWNER/OPERATOR INFORMATION**Registered Aircraft Owner**Name: Marion County Sheriff's OfficeCity: OcalaFractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoState: Florida ZIP: 34475Country: United States**Operator of Aircraft**☒ Same As Registered Owner☒ Same Address as Registered Owner

Name: _____

City: _____

Doing Business As: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Air Carrier/Operator Designator (4 Character Code): _____

Country: _____

Operating Certificates Held

(Check all that apply)

- ☒ None
☐ Flag Carrier Operating Certificate (FAR 121)
☐ Supplemental
☐ Air Cargo
☐ Foreign Air Carriers (FAR 129)
☐ Rotorcraft External Load (FAR 133)
☐ Commuter Air Carrier (FAR 135)
☐ On-Demand Air Taxi (FAR 135)
☐ Commercial Air Tour (FAR 136)
☐ Agricultural Aircraft (FAR 137)
☐ Pilot School (FAR 141)
☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ Commercial Space Transportation
Experimental Permit
☐ Commercial Space Transportation License
☐ Other Operator of Large Aircraft

Regulation Flight Conducted Under

- ☐ FAR 91 ☐ FAR 129 ☐ FAR 415
☐ FAR 103 ☐ FAR 133 ☐ FAR 431
☐ FAR 121 ☐ FAR 135 ☐ FAR 435
☐ FAR 125 ☐ FAR 137 ☐ FAR 437
- ☐ FAR 91 Special Flight
☐ Non-US, Commercial
☐ Non-US, Non-commercial
- ☒ Public Aircraft (Select one)
☐ Armed Forces
☐ Federal
☐ State
☒ Local
☐ Unknown

Revenue Operation for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135

(Select one for each group)

- ☐ Scheduled or Commuter ☐ Domestic
☐ Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi ☐ International
- ☐ Passenger
☐ Cargo
☐ Mail Contract Only

Purpose of Flight for FAR 91, 103, 133, 137

(Select one)

- ☐ Aerial Application ☒ Firefighting ☐ Unknown
☐ Aerial Observation ☐ Flight Test
☐ Air Drop ☐ Glider Tow
☐ Air Race/Show ☐ Instructional
☐ Banner Tow ☐ Other Work Use
☐ Business ☐ Personal
☐ Executive/Corporate ☐ Positioning
☐ External Load ☐ Skydiving
☐ Ferry

Revenue Sightseeing Flight☐ Yes ☒ No**Air Medical Flight**☐ Yes ☒ No**AIRPORT INFORMATION (Fill in if accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 miles of an airport)**

Airport Name: _____

Distance From Airport Center: _____ sm

Airport Identifier: _____

Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true

Proximity to Airport: ☐ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/A

Airport Elevation: _____ ft. msl

Runway Information

Runway ID: _____ (L/R/C) Length: _____ ft Width: _____ ft

Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Asphalt ☐ Grass/Turf ☐ Macadam ☐ Water
☐ Concrete ☐ Gravel ☐ Metal/Wood
☐ Dirt ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Unknown

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Dry ☐ Snow-Compacted ☐ Water-Calm
☐ Holes ☐ Snow-Crusted ☐ Water-Choppy
☐ Ice Covered ☐ Snow-Dry ☐ Water-Glassy
☐ Rough ☐ Snow-Wet ☐ Wet
☐ Rubber Deposits ☐ Soft
☐ Slush-Covered ☐ Vegetation ☐ Unknown

Approach/Departure Segment (Select one)

- ☐ Taxi ☐ VFR Departure ☐ On Instrument Approach ☐ Downwind ☐ Low Approach
☐ Takeoff ☐ IFR Departure Procedure/Clearance ☐ Landing ☐ Base ☐ Go Around
☐ Initial Climb ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown)
☐ Crosswind ☐ Unknown

IFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
- ☐ ADF/NDB ☐ PAR ☐ MLS ☐ Practice
☐ SDF ☐ Sidestep ☐ LDA ☐ GPS
☐ VOR/TVOR ☐ ILS ☐ ASR
☐ VOR/DME ☐ Localizer Only ☐ Visual
☐ TACAN ☐ LOC-back course ☐ Contact
☐ RNAV ☐ Circling
☐ Unknown

VFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
- ☐ Traffic Pattern ☐ Stop and Go
☐ Straight-In ☐ Touch and Go
☐ Valley/Terrain Following ☐ Simulated Forced Landing
☐ Go Around ☐ Forced Landing
☐ Full Stop ☐ Precautionary Landing
☐ Unknown

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 1" INFORMATION

"Flight Crewmember 1" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☒ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 1" was pilot flying ☒ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 1" Identification

First Name: John City of Residence: Ocala
 Middle Initial: M. State: Florida ZIP: 34475
 Last Name: Rawls Country: Unites States
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: 48 Date of Birth: mm/dd/yyyy
 Certificate Number:

Degree of Injury ☐ None ☐ Fatal ☐ Minor ☐ Unknown ☒ Serious	Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown ☒ Right ☐ Rear ☐ Center ☐ Single	Restraint Type <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Available</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Used</th> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ None</td> <td>☐ None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Lap only</td> <td>☐ Lap only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 3-point</td> <td>☐ 3-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☒ 4-point</td> <td>☒ 4-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 5-point</td> <td>☐ 5-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Unknown</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> </table>	Available	Used	☐ None	☐ None	☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only	☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point	☒ 4-point	☒ 4-point	☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point	☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☒ Deployed ☐ Unknown
Available	Used																
☐ None	☐ None																
☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only																
☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point																
☒ 4-point	☒ 4-point																
☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point																
☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown																
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☒ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer																	

Principal Occupation ☒ Pilot ☐ Other ☐ Unknown	Medical Certificate ☐ None ☐ Class 3 ☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only) ☒ Class 2 ☐ Unknown	Medical Certificate Validity ☒ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown ☐ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A ☐ Special Issuance	Date of Last Medical <u>02/02/2016</u> mm/dd/yyyy
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Medical Certificate Limitations

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: <u>02/02/2017</u> mm/dd/yyyy	Flight Review Aircraft Make: <u>Bell Helicopter</u> Model: <u>206A1</u>
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Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☒ None ☐ Single-Engine Land ☐ Single-Engine Sea ☐ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea	Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Airship ☐ Balloon ☐ Glider ☐ Gyroplane ☒ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Airplane ☒ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☒ None ☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Helicopter ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Glider ☐ Powered Lift ☐ Sport
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Type Ratings	Student Endorsements (Include dates)
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Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	3,494	1,552						3,494		
Pilot in Command (PIC)	2,510	1,552						2,510		
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days	46	46						46		
Last 30 Days	17	17						17		
Last 24 Hours	2	2						2		

“FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 2” INFORMATION

“Flight Crewmember 2” Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☐ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

“Flight Crewmember 2” was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No

“Flight Crewmember 2” Identification

First Name: _____

City of Residence: _____

Middle Initial: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Last Name: _____

Country: _____

Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ Date of Birth: _____ mm/dd/yyyy

Certificate Number: _____

Degree of Injury

☐ None ☐ Fatal
☐ Minor ☐ Unknown
☐ Serious

Seat Occupied

☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown
☐ Right ☐ Rear
☐ Center ☐ Single

Restraint Type

Available

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Used

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Inflatable Restraints

☐ Not Installed
☐ Installed
☐ Not Deployed
☐ Deployed
☐ Unknown

Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military
☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign
☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer

Principal Occupation

☐ Pilot
☐ Other
☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate

☐ None ☐ Class 3
☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)
☐ Class 2 ☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate Validity

☐ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown
☐ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A
☐ Special Issuance

Date of Last Medical

_____ mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks:

_____ mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: _____

Model: _____

Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Single-Engine Land
☐ Single-Engine Sea
☐ Multiengine Land
☐ Multiengine Sea

Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airship
☐ Balloon
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None ☐ Instrument Airplane
☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Instrument Helicopter
☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Helicopter
☐ Gyroplane ☐ Glider
☐ Powered Lift ☐ Sport

Type Ratings

Student Endorsements (Include dates)

Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time										
Pilot in Command (PIC)										
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days										
Last 30 Days										
Last 24 Hours										

ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CREWMEMBERS (Exclusive of cabin crew, complete the following information)									
Crew Name and Address					Seat Occupied		Injury		
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____					☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign					Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown		
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No			Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs						
Crew Name and Address					Seat Occupied		Injury		
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____					☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign					Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown		
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No			Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs						
PASSENGER(S) / OTHER PERSONNEL (Include cabin crew; continue on separate sheet if necessary)									
Name and Address			Seat	Injury	Restraint Type		Inflatable Restraints	Age	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point Airport ID: <u>KOCF</u> City: <u>Ocala</u> State: <u>Florida</u> Country: <u>United States</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>1500</u> Time Zone: <u>Eastern</u>	Destination Airport ID: <u>N/A</u> City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____	Type Flight Plan Filed ☒ None ☐ VFR/IFR ☐ Company VFR ☐ IFR ☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown ☐ VFR Activated? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
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Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check all that apply)				
☒ None	☐ Special VFR	☐ Special IFR	☐ VFR Flight Following	☐ Cruise
☐ VFR	☐ IFR	☐ VFR On Top	☐ Traffic Advisory	☐ Unknown / NA

Airspace where the accident/incident occurred (Check all that apply)			Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence: <u>50</u> ft msl
☐ Class A ☐ Class B ☐ Class C ☐ Class D ☐ Class E	☒ Class G ☐ Demo Area ☐ Warning Area ☐ Prohibited Area ☐ Restricted Area	☐ Military Operations Area (MOA) ☐ Airport Advisory Area ☐ Jet Training Area ☐ TRSA ☐ FAR 93	☐ Special ☐ Air Traffic Control Area ☐ Unknown

WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE

Source of Pilot Weather Information (Check all that apply)	Weather Observation Facility
☒ National Weather Service ☐ Flight Service Station ☐ TV/Radio ☒ Automated Report ☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS) ☐ On-Board Weather	Facility ID: <u>KOCF</u> Observation Time: <u>5:50pm</u> Time Zone: <u>Eastern</u> Distance from Accident Site: <u>25</u> nm Direction from Accident Site: <u>225</u> degrees true
☐ Company ☐ Military ☒ Internet ☐ None ☐ Unknown	

Basic Conditions ☒ VMC ☐ IMC ☐ Unknown	Light Condition ☐ Dawn ☒ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown ☐ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night
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Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition ☐ Clear ☐ Thin Broken ☐ Few ☐ Thin Overcast ☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown ☒ Scattered	Ceiling ☐ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured ☐ Broken ☐ Indefinite ☐ Overcast ☒ Unknown	Temperature: _____ (C) or <u>87.8</u> (F) Dew Point: _____ (C) or <u>55.4</u> (F) Altimeter Setting: <u>2996</u> in. Hg or _____ MB
Lowest Cloud Condition Height _____ ft agl	Ceiling Height _____ ft agl	

Wind Direction ☐ Variable -or- Direction: <u>North</u> degrees true	Wind Speed ☐ Calm ☐ Light and Variable -or- Speed: <u>9.2</u> kts	Wind Gusts ☐ Not Gusting -or- Speed: <u>15</u> kts	Visibility <u>10</u> miles RVR: _____ feet RVV: _____ miles Density Altitude: _____ ft
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Intensity of Precipitation ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Heavy ☒ N/A ☐ Unknown	Type of Precipitation (Check all that apply)	Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply)
	☐ None ☐ Drizzle ☐ Freezing Rain ☐ Rain ☐ Ice Pellets ☐ Snow Shower ☐ Snow ☐ Snow Pellets ☐ Ice Pellets Shower ☐ Hail ☐ Snow Grains ☐ Freezing Drizzle ☐ Rain Showers ☐ Ice Crystals	☐ None ☐ Fog ☐ Blowing Dust ☐ Ground Fog ☐ Blowing Sand ☐ Haze ☐ Blowing Snow ☐ Ice Fog ☐ Blowing Spray ☒ Smoke ☐ Dust ☐ Unknown

Icing Forecast	Icing Actual	Turbulence																																						
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NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident:

DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT AND OTHER PROPERTY**Aircraft Damage**

- ☐ None ☐ Substantial
☐ Minor ☒ Destroyed
 ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Fire

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Fire at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Explosion

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Explosion at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property *(Use additional sheet if necessary)*

The aircraft was completely destroyed from the recovery efforts due primarily to the muck and floating vegetation in the remote lake. However, despite the damage caused during the recovery, the following damage was noted which corroborates John Rawls' recollection of events. The right rear skid tube shows scrape marks in the non-skid paint at an angle and fashion that would be indicative of a cable being pulled along the area for about 6 inches. One tail rotor blade was folded 90 degrees, 5 inches from the Tail Rotor Hub and showed metal to metal contact. The Tail Rotor Short Shaft is broken just behind the coupling as it leaves the Engine Gearbox. The short shaft shows twisting at the area of the break indicating sudden stoppage of the tail rotor drive train.

The recovery efforts required clearing of trees and underbrush to reach the edge of the lake. The fuel tanks and gearboxes remained

**NARRATIVE HISTORY OF FLIGHT** *(Please type or print in ink)*

Describe what occurred in chronological order, including circumstances leading to and nature of accident/incident. Describe terrain and include wreckage distribution sketch if pertinent. Attach extra sheets if needed. State departure time and location, services obtained, and intended destination. Provide as much detail as possible.

John Rawls was dispatched to assist with a fire in the area of NE 212th Lane and Hwy 315 near Orange Springs, Marion County, Florida at 1459 Hrs. After preflight preparations were complete, he departed KOCF at 1519 Hrs. Upon arriving near the scene he chose a safe nearby landing zone, landed, inspected and attached the Bambi Bucket and began firefighting operations. He advised that he had completed between 25 and 30 drops, refueled and completed 3 or 4 additional drops when the incident occurred. He stated that as he began to pull the bucket from the water he instantly encountered a severe out of CG condition to the right. He was fully aware that he had likely gotten the cables from the bucket wrapped around the skid. He attempted to release the water to rectify the situation to no avail. He then began to rock the aircraft in an attempt to free the bucket unsuccessfully. He then released the bucket using the cargo release button, heard the typical "clunk" sound of the bucket releasing then another loud "clunk". At this point he began a violent spin and went into the water. He was able to free himself from the aircraft, inflate his Personal Flotation Device and swim to safety. He stated the entire scenario occurred in less than 10 seconds. He was able to utilize his cell phone to notify Sgt. Darren Bruner who was manning the refuel site at a nearby landing zone that he had crashed and was in need of assistance. He was then able to notify the communications center of his location utilizing the mapping applications on his cell phone. Rescue efforts were initiated and involved the use of a bulldozer to provide access due to the nearly impenetrable undergrowth surrounding the lake.

The aircraft was located in Bay Lake, upside down, but largely intact, in roughly 12 feet of water. With the assistance of the Marion County Sheriff's Dive Team, air bags were employed to assist in floating the aircraft and a rope was attached to the aircraft and it was gently towed to within 40 yards of the bank remaining intact. Efforts were then severely hampered due to muck and floating vegetation stopping any further forward progress and making diving efforts impossible. It was determined that no heavy equipment could get close enough to the waters edge to remove the muck and vegetation, which would have likely allowed for removal with minimal additional damage. A winch was then employed from the bulldozer and the aircraft was removed causing severe damage. Once removed the aircraft was transported to the Marion County Sheriff's Aviation Unit hangar at KOCF.

Upon receiving John Rawls verbal statement, I contacted Mr. John Breen of the FAA and Mr. Ralph Hicks with the NTSB. I advised them of the above information at which Mr. Hicks requested additional photos of the damage described above. I provided said pictures via email and Mr. Hicks released the aircraft to the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

Strict control over heading and drift while filling the Bambi Bucket.

It should also be noted that the 406 ELT was activated upon impact and was still operating when the aircraft was removed from the lake. However, the signal was never received by SARSAT personnel. Our other methods of tracking aircraft included IFinder for our iPad and phones, a hand held PLB, and discreet squawk code with ATC. None of which were effective during this incident. Had it not been for John Rawls personal phone being in a waterproof case, recovery efforts would not have been accomplished nearly as soon as they were.

MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION/FAILURE (If more space is needed, continue on separate sheet)Was there Mechanical Malfunction/Failure? ☐ Yes ☒ No

(If yes, list the name of the part, manufacturer, part no., serial no., and describe the failure.)

**Total Time/Cycles
On Part**

_____ Hours

_____ Cycles

**Time Since This Part
Inspected/Overhauled**

_____ Hours

FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATION**Fuel on Board at Last Takeoff**

(Convert from pounds, as necessary)

35 Gallons**Fuel Type**☐ 80/87☐ 115/145☐ Jet B☐ Other, specify _____☐ 100 Low Lead☒ Jet A☐ JP8☐ 100/130☐ Jet A-1☐ Automotive**Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure**

None

EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFTWas an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☒ Yes ☐ No**Method of Exit** – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location

John Rawls utilized his "Dunker" training and was able to successfully free himself while inverted and under water.

OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for *other* aircraft)**Aircraft Registration Number**

Manufacturer: _____**Model:** _____**Damage to Other Aircraft**☐ Destroyed☐ Minor☐ Substantial☐ None**Registered Owner of Other Aircraft**

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

Pilot of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print in ink)

Use this space if additional space is needed for any answers.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Date of this Report

05/10/2017

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: _____

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name: Harold O. Standridge Jr.

Title: Aviation Unit Commander

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☒ Check here to electronically sign this document

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No.

ERA17LA170

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

ERA

Name of Investigator

R. Hicks

Date Report Received

5/10/2017