

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: Juncos/Pena Pobre State: PR

ZIP: 00777 Country: USA

Latitude: 18.240852 Longitude: -65.818488

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

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 01/11/2018 Local Time: 14:30

mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: AST

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

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N571HH

Manufacturer: Hughes Helicopters

Model: 369D

Serial Number: 470125D

Year of Manufacture: 1977

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

☐ IFR-Equipped and Certified

☐ Commercial Space Flight

☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: 3,000 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 2,200 lbs

Number of Seats: 4 Flight Crew Seats: _____

Cabin Crew Seats: _____ Passenger Seats: _____

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

Engine Type (Select one)

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

Fuel System Type (Reciprocating)

- ☐ Carburetor
- ☐ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Serial	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	Allison	250-C20	833904	02/20/1981	425	17,984	6 2,620
Eng. 2							
Eng. 3							
Eng. 4							

Last Inspection Type

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

Date Last Inspection: 01/09/2018

mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 10,789 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: 100-Hour/Annual

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: Unk

Model or Part No.: Unk

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: Utility Helicopters, Inc.City: El CajonState: CA ZIP: 92020Fractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoCountry: USA**Operator of Aircraft**☐ Same As Registered Owner☐ Same Address as Registered OwnerName: High Line Helicopters, LLCCity: Gainesville

Doing Business As: _____

State: VA ZIP: 20155

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

Country: USA**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 ☐ Final ☐ 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: Jason City of Residence: Covina
 Middle Initial: P State: CA ZIP: 91724
 Last Name: Lowry Country: USA
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: 39 Date of Birth: 1978 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

10/04/2017
 mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

None

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

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

04/03/2017
 mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: Hughes
 Model: MD500D

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
☐ Airplane Single-Engine
☐ Airplane Multi-Engine
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Powered Lift

☐ Instrument Airplane
☐ Instrument Helicopter
☒ Helicopter
☐ Glider
☐ Sport

Type Ratings

None

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	3,831	1,200						3,831		
Pilot in Command (PIC)	3,778	1,200						3,778		
Time as Instructor	1,000	1,000						1,000		
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days	350	350						350		
Last 30 Days	165	165						165		
Last 24 Hours	8	8						8		

"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 ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer					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 ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer					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 If Under 5, ☐ 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 If Under 5, ☐ 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 If Under 5, ☐ 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 If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point

Airport ID: TJIG
 City: San Juan
 State: PR
 Country: USA

Time of Departure

Time: 0700
 Time Zone: AST

Destination

Airport ID: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 Country: _____

Type Flight Plan Filed

☒ None ☐ VFR/IFR
☐ Company VFR ☐ IFR
☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown
☐ VFR
 Activated? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

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)

☐ Class A ☒ Class G ☐ Military Operations Area (MOA) ☐ Special
☐ Class B ☐ Demo Area ☐ Airport Advisory Area ☐ Air Traffic Control Area
☐ Class C ☐ Warning Area ☐ Jet Training Area ☐ Unknown
☐ Class D ☐ Prohibited Area ☐ TRSA
☐ Class E ☐ Restricted Area ☐ FAR 93

Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence:

1,300 ft msl

WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE

Source of Pilot Weather Information

(Check all that apply)

☒ National Weather Service ☐ Company
☐ Flight Service Station ☐ Military
☐ TV/Radio ☐ Internet
☐ Automated Report ☐ None
☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS) ☐ Unknown
☐ On-Board Weather

Weather Observation Facility

Facility ID: _____
 Observation Time: _____
 Time Zone: _____
 Distance from Accident Site: _____ nm
 Direction from Accident Site: _____ degrees true

Basic Conditions

☐ VMC
☐ IMC
☐ Unknown

Light Condition

☐ Dawn ☐ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown
☐ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night

Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition

☐ Clear ☐ Thin Broken
☐ Few ☐ Thin Overcast
☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown
☐ Scattered

Lowest Cloud Condition Height

_____ ft agl

Ceiling

☐ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured
☐ Broken ☐ Indefinite
☐ Overcast ☐ Unknown

Ceiling Height

_____ ft agl

Temperature: _____ (C) or _____ (F)

Dew Point: _____ (C) or _____ (F)

Altimeter Setting: _____ in. Hg
 or _____ MB

Wind Direction

☐ Variable

-or-
 Direction: 120 degrees true

Wind Speed

☐ Calm
☐ Light and Variable

-or-
 Speed: 10 kts

Wind Gusts

☐ Not Gusting

-or-
 Speed: 16 kts

Visibility _____ miles

RVR: _____ feet

RVV: _____ miles

Density Altitude: _____ ft

Intensity of Precipitation

☐ Light
☐ Moderate
☐ Heavy
☐ N/A
☐ Unknown

Type of Precipitation (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

Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply)

☐ None ☐ Fog
☐ Blowing Dust ☐ Ground Fog
☐ Blowing Sand ☐ Haze
☐ Blowing Snow ☐ Ice Fog
☐ Blowing Spray ☐ Smoke
☐ Dust ☐ Unknown

Icing Forecast

Amount ☐ None ☐ N/A
☐ Trace ☐ Rime
☐ Light ☐ Clear
☐ Moderate ☐ Mixed
☐ Severe ☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown

Icing Actual

Amount ☐ None ☐ N/A
☐ Trace ☐ Rime
☐ Light ☐ Clear
☐ Moderate ☐ Mixed
☐ Severe ☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown

Turbulence

Type (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Light
☐ Clear Air ☐ Moderate
☐ Terrain-Induced ☐ Severe
☐ Convective Turbulence ☐ Extreme

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

None

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)*

None

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.

Counsel's Objection

Counsel objects to this investigation being conducted, as the circumstances involved do not amount to an aircraft accident in the definitions provided by 49 CFR Part 830. The injured party was never a passenger or intended to be a passenger on the aircraft. At the time the incident occurred, the aircraft was merely hovering overhead and was not in contact as an external load or otherwise with the injured party or the ladder that was originally planned to be lifted as an external load. That operation had been abandoned when the ladder was hung up on the structure in some manner and the pilot was given the signal to lower the grapple. The grapple came out of contact with the ladder and was not in use when the lineman tried to adjust the ladder to free it and fell to the ground as a result. Therefore, counsel objects to this investigation being pursued under the auspices of the NTSB versus the OSHA investigation, which is appropriate.

Should the NTSB find the above facts are true, counsel requests this accident investigation and any preliminary reports be purged and not subject to future reporting by the pilot. Even if the pilot is found not to be at fault in this situation, the mere fact he has this investigation on his record would forever harm his ability to obtain future employment in this role as a pilot, which is his only form of income. This field of operation is highly competitive and having to report even a no fault accident, will detrimentally affect his future employment. Therefore, counsel requests this investigation be completely purged and deemed not reportable in the future if the above facts are reasonably established during the course of this investigation.

Pilot's Statement

On 01/08/2018, I arrived at LZ and shutdown the aircraft. I inspected and attached all gear for the tasks this day. Then after participating in the ARC tailboard (safety briefing) I moved forward with addressing the specific uses of the A-frame for Human External Cargo (HEC) and equipment and the grapple for moving equipment only. Army corps supervisor (Jason) was present and can attest to this briefing.

On 01/11/2018, I arrived at the ARC pole yard at 8:00 am local time. I shutdown the aircraft, removed, inspected and attached all gear to be used for daily tasks. I attended the ARC tailboard to review all tasks for the day and any special concerns we faced. This day I would be supporting three different crews on three different structures. After a verbal confirmation that there were no questions about the tasks at hand we closed the meeting. After signing the tailboard sheets, I returned to the aircraft to begin final checks before start up. Before arriving at the aircraft, I was stopped by a lineman that intended to do ladder work on this day. I was asked by this lineman how to properly rig his ladder. I immediately referred him to his fellow linemen and supervisors to address any and all questions he had regarding specific ladder rigging.

I continued to the aircraft and began flights taking various crews to locations on the hill. At approximately 2:00 pm local, the ceiling was broken at 2,000' with 5 miles visibility and wind at 10kts.

I had radio contact with one lineman on the crew. Radio terminology for these operations is "man pick" or "man pick with a ladder" for operations where HEC is involved, requiring use of the A-frame and the belly band, and "ladder pick" or "wire pick" for operations lifting only equipment which only requires use of the grapple. After making nine man picks with the man and ladder using the A-frame and belly band, I was summoned back to the structure with the 100' line and grapple to move a wire up to the middle arm. After completing the wire move, a transmission came over the radio requesting a "ladder pick." Having only the 100' line and grapple attached, I confirmed over the radio that it was a "ladder pick" only and the lineman confirmed that it was. This alerts me as the pilot that the A-frame and belly band are not required as this would be a gear move only. From my position I was able to see a lineman down near the bottom arm and one near the top arm of the structure. I moved into position to pick up the ladder, leaving the grapple within the upper lineman's reach.

RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)**Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation**

Restricting lineman on flight duty to approved lineman. Unbeknown to the pilot, this lineman in particular had been previously barred from flight duty with the company but was not prevented from inserting himself into the crew on this date by the supervisor of the lineman crew.

Use of double safety for lineman 100% of the time, lineman was not tied off to structure.

Helmet mounted communications for all linemen working with the helicopter, only lineman with radio contact was the involved lineman.

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)

36 _____ 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

EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFT

Was an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Method of Exit – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location

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.

Pilot's Statement (continued)

I saw the lineman near the top put the grapple into rigging. He then gave a visual head signal (nodding up and down in a yes motion) indicating I should begin applying upward pressure. I began to slowly apply upward pressure, but could see and feel that the ladder appeared to be bound by something so I stopped applying upward pressure. I saw the upper lineman give me a visual head signal to let the line down (shaking head left to right). I lowered the line until the grapple came free of the rigging and was suspended near the upper lineman, but not in contact with the ladder or any other rigging.

As I hovered above, I could see both lineman shaking the ladder back and forth in an apparent attempt to get it free from whatever was binding it. Directly following this action, the lineman near the top arm reached out for the right-side safety chain on the ladder in an apparent attempt to remove it. When he did so, the ladder pivoted to the right, came free of the structure and the lineman and ladder departed the structure to the ground.

Immediately following this I announced over the radio man down and conveyed the urgency to contact emergency services. I returned to the LZ and shut down the helicopter. I stowed the helicopter gear and made the aircraft ready for possible on board passenger transport.

Based upon my observations, it was clear that the lineman was not tied off to the structure at the time of the incident. It also appeared he was tied off to the ladder and may have been pulled from the structure by the weight of the ladder when his interaction with the ladder caused it to depart the structure. It is unsafe for the lineman to be tied off to the ladder when requesting a "ladder pick," as the intent is to lift the ladder to another location without HEC, which would require me to reconfigure the helicopter rigging to include the A-frame and belly strap.

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

Date of this Report

03/26/2018

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: Jason P. Lowry

Signature:

-- or --

☒ Check here to electronically sign this document

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name:

Title:

Signature:

-- or --

☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No.

ERA18LA091

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

ERA

Name of Investigator

Gretz

Date Report Received

3/26/18