



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Millicent Hill
Aviation Accident Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: August 19, 2019
Person Contacted: James Picket
NTSB Accident Number: ERA18LA269

Narrative:

This investigator interviewed Mr. Picket by telephone shortly after the accident. He stated he was departing the roof of a parking garage with three passengers when the helicopter had a maintenance problem. He was able to land and allowed the passengers to disembark. He stated when he attempted to reposition the helicopter to its original takeoff position, about 150 ft away, the helicopter began to spin before he got it off the skids. The helicopter spun and impacted a parked car.

He reported operating the helicopter on the roof of the parking garage for a festival that the city was having. The city had taken down light poles to allow the helicopter to land there. He believed there was a governor failure and an overspeed. He thought the maintenance problem that occurred from the first takeoff was compounded by the attempted second takeoff.

In a subsequent telephone call the day after the accident the pilot stated he was calling to find out what would happen next with the investigation. He asked about the accident reporting form and what he needed to do. He stated that he did not believe the accident should be classified as an accident. He believed that it was a ground occurrence because he had not attempted to fly the helicopter to reposition it. He was going to use the wheels and move it manually, and that there must have been a misunderstanding during the previous telephone conversation. He stated he did not add power, and that he never intended to fly it because he "wasn't crazy."