

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: Fort Meade State: FL
 ZIP: 33841 Country: U.S.A.
 Latitude: 27.702127 Longitude: -81.768947
 (Enter in decimal degrees or degrees:minutes:seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 10/03/2019 Local Time: 1503
 mm/dd/yyyy
 Time Zone: EST

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

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N911RW

Manufacturer: Bell Helicopters

Model: OH-58

Serial Number: 72-21147

Year of Manufacture: 1972

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

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

Maximum Gross Weight: 3,200 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 2650 lbs

Number of Seats: 4 Flight Crew Seats: 2

Cabin Crew Seats: _____ 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 | Special |
|------------------------------------|---|
| ☐ Normal | ☐ Restricted |
| ☐ Aerobatic | ☐ Limited |
| ☐ Balloon | ☐ Provisional |
| ☐ Commuter | ☐ Special Flight |
| ☐ Transport | ☐ Experimental |
| ☐ Utility | ☐ 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	T63-A720	AE-405215	Unk	420	7737	51.5	N/A
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

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

Date Last Inspection: 09/13/2019

mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 9829.0 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: U.S. Army maint program

Description of Fire Extinguishing System

- ☐ None
☒ Specify: Halon fire extinguisher

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: Cobham

Model or Part No.: ME406HM

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: Polk County Sheriff's OfficeCity: Winter HavenState: FLZIP: 33880Fractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoCountry: U.S.A.**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

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

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

- ☐ 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 ☐ Crosswind ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown)
☐ 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: Herbert

City of Residence: Lakeland

Middle Initial: L

State: FL

ZIP: 33812

Last Name: Hughes

Country: U.S.A.

Age at time of Accident/Incident: 52

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

mm/dd/yyyy

Certificate Number: [REDACTED]

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

07/17/2019
mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

Must wear corrective lenses.

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

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

08/07/2019
mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: MD Helicopters
Model: 500E

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 ☐ Instrument Airplane
☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Instrument Helicopter
☐ Gyroplane ☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift ☐ Glider
☐ 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	4,287	2,500	571	13	4	36	28	3,703	0	0
Pilot in Command (PIC)	3,866	2,300	520	10	2	36	28	3,336	0	0
Time as Instructor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
This Make/Model					600	0	0			
Last 90 Days	49	45	4	0	9	0	0	45	0	0
Last 30 Days	19	17	2	0	9	0	0	17	0	0
Last 24 Hours	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

"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: _____	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown
Middle Initial: _____	State: _____ ZIP: _____	☐ Front ☐ Rear ☐ Single ☐ Unknown	
Last Name: _____	Country: _____		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)		Restraint Type:	Inflatable Restraints
☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student	☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport	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
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: _____	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown
Middle Initial: _____	State: _____ ZIP: _____	☐ Front ☐ Rear ☐ Single ☐ Unknown	
Last Name: _____	Country: _____		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)		Restraint Type:	Inflatable Restraints
☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student	☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport	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
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: KBOW

City: Bartow

State: FL

Country: U.S.A.

Time of Departure

Time: 1412

Time Zone: EST

Destination

Airport ID: KBOW local flight

City: Bartow

State: FL

Country: U.S.A.

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:

200 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: KBOW

Observation Time: 1850Z

Time Zone: EST

Distance from Accident Site: 16.74 nm

Direction from Accident Site: 357 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

Ceiling

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

Temperature: 32 (C) or _____ (F)

Dew Point: 18 (C) or _____ (F)

Altimeter Setting: 29.96 in. Hg
or _____ MB

Lowest Cloud Condition Height

3500 ft agl

Ceiling Height

_____ ft agl

Wind Direction

☐ Variable

- or -
Direction: 060 degrees true

Wind Speed

☐ Calm
☐ Light and Variable

- or -
Speed: 12 kts

Wind Gusts

☐ Not Gusting

- or -
Speed: 18 kts

Visibility 10SM 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
☐ Trace
☐ Light
☐ Moderate
☐ Severe
☐ Unknown

Type

☒ N/A
☐ Rime
☐ Clear
☐ Mixed
☐ Unknown

Icing Actual

Amount

☒ None
☐ Trace
☐ Light
☐ Moderate
☐ Severe
☐ Unknown

Type

☐ N/A
☐ Rime
☐ Clear
☐ Mixed
☐ Unknown

Turbulence

Type (Check all that apply)

☒ None
☐ Clear Air
☐ Terrain-Induced
☐ Convective Turbulence

Severity

☐ Light
☐ Moderate
☐ Severe
☐ Extreme

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

N/A

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)

Substantial damage, rotor blades, both main and tail rotor destroyed. Aircraft rolled on side upon impact, transmission and engine destroyed. Tail boom separated from aircraft upon impact.

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.

On this date, I was the on-duty pilot for the Polk County Sheriff's Office Aviation Unit. I had conducted a pre-flight on the 1972 Bell OH-58, N911RW, earlier in the morning along with the Airworthiness Directives located in our maintenance book that is kept in the aircraft. I noted no concerns or "squawks" and felt the aircraft was mechanically ready for flight.

Several hours had gone by and around 14:00 hours I received a call from our dispatch via telephone, that an airplane had crashed in the area of Mt. Pisgah Rd and County Line Rd. This is considered a rural area of Polk County and consist of phosphate pits and gypsum berms.

We were updated that we should be looking for a gyrocopter and not an airplane. The only visible signs of the aircraft were its rotor blades which were sticking up out of the foliage. The foliage in the gypsum pond were approx. 6-9 feet tall. As I made my first circle around the gyrocopter, I noticed the pilot was still in the aircraft. He appeared to be standing on the seat of the gyrocopter, holding one of the rotor blades for support above his head. He was covered in gypsum mud and appeared to be having a difficult time maintaining his balance. The gyrocopter had landed in the gypsum pond, facing east, which is completely covered with foliage and inundated with gypsum and water. Having past experience with this type of material and dangers that it represented, I knew the gyrocopter and the pilot both could sink at any time.

Knowing the danger the pilot and gyrocopter were in, I made the decision to try and have the pilot grab the starboard skid, and I would slowly increase collective, while increasing left cyclic, to offset the added weight from the starboard side. I knew this would change the Center Gravity (CG), but I felt if the CG started to increase towards the outside too much, I could lower the collective and place the pilot back at his original location. I knew the extra weight would also cause my aircraft to descend.

Jeff (pilot) was able to grab the starboard side of my skid a couple of times, however due to the mud and gypsum on his hands and arms, he lost his grip. On the third attempt, I noticed Jeff had actually repositioned himself out from under his rotor and closer to my aircraft. This placed Jeff between his aircraft and my starboard skid. Without hesitation and without warning, Jeff jumped up in the air towards my skid, grabbing the skid in the air, causing his entire weight to be forced onto my skid. This immediately changed my CG in an instant. This action not only caused my aircraft to descend, but an abrupt and violent roll towards the starboard side. I immediately increased the collective to prevent striking his aircraft with my skid, however the roll was tremendous and without warning. As soon as I knew I was clear the top of his aircraft, I attempted to push forward with the cyclic, to increase forward speed and increase lift. The aircraft did not respond and continued to roll to the right (starboard) side. This caused Jeff to be dragged across the top of his rotor blade, which in turn caused his blade to bend upwards. My aircraft completed approximately a 270 degree turn from its original direction, before striking the ground, facing north bound. It felt as if the front of the skids struck first, causing them to dig into the gypsum, followed by the nose of the aircraft striking next. The aircraft then rolled over on its port side before coming to final rest, southwest of the gyrocopter, approximately 400' from the berm.

Herbert Lavon Hughes

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

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

Maintain adequate altitude clearance with persons and property on the ground.

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.)

Mechanical malfunction or failure not suspected at this time.

**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)70 Gallons**Fuel Type**☐ 80/87☐ 100 Low Lead☐ 100/130☐ 115/145☒ Jet A☐ Jet A-1☐ Jet B☐ JP8☐ Automotive☐ Other, specify _____

Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure

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

Aircraft rolled on its left side, co-pilot side. Pilot evacuated the aircraft via the right door.

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☐ Substantial☐ Minor☐ 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.

The downed pilot we attempted to rescue from the gyrocopter was Jeff Wright, white male, [REDACTED] Lutz, FL. 33548. His phone number is [REDACTED] His aircraft was a homebuilt AR1 Gyrocopter bearing N number, N463JW.

The Polk County Sheriff's Office is investigating this aircraft accident and the case number is 19-46318, Detective Ricky Daugherty and Aviation Supervisor Rob Gray.

Rob Gray
Aviation Supervisor/Pilot
Special Operations, Support services, Aviation

The FAA has been in contact and are investigating. Dwight Greenlund is the POC, [REDACTED] Orlando FSDO.

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

Date of this Report <u>10/10/19</u> <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>	Name of Pilot/Operator: <u>Herbert Lavon Hughes</u> 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. ERA20LA004	Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office ERA	Name of Investigator L. Read	Date Report Received 10/10/2019
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