



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Eastern Region – Ashburn, Virginia

NTSB Record of Interview

Date: 8/24/2022

Who: Bertram Gore, Witness

NTSB Case #: ERA22FA383, Whiteside, TN

Mr. Gore was interviewed in person at the Running Water Church of God, Whiteside, TN.

Mr. Gore stated that he was a salesman and was driving eastbound on Highway 24 in his Ford F150 truck toward Chattanooga, Tennessee, when he observed a “dark colored helicopter” with yellow on the side flying north of the interstate. The helicopter was headed westbound, was low to the ground and very close to a set of powerlines. Mr. Gore described the helicopter as hovering, and it did not appear to be in distress. Mr. Gore was talking to his wife on the phone at the time and mentioned to her that he was concerned about the helicopter’s low altitude and proximity to the powerlines. A few seconds later, the helicopter struck the powerlines, and he observed an “arc.” The helicopter then spun a few times, and it appeared as if the pilot was trying to regain control of the helicopter. Mr. Gore said the helicopter descended and disappeared from view. At the same time, a broken section of a powerline cable fell on the interstate in front of his vehicle. He was unable to stop in time and ran over the cable.

Mr. Gore called 911.

End of Interview