



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

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National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: 9/7/2022 1030
Person Interviewed- Nickolas Hisserich – Seller
NTSB Case Number: ERA22FA397

Narrative:

Mr. Nick Hisserich was interviewed by telephone.

Nick stated he sold the helicopter to Mr. Ted Stucky about a week prior to the accident flight. Nick also stated that he was the builder of the helicopter, and it took about 4 years to complete. He also said the helicopter just finished a Condition Inspection and there were no issues with the helicopter. Nick said that a Mr. David Stone was a friend of the new owner and David was going to fly the helicopter back to Knoxville Tennessee for Ted Stucky. Nick is also a flight instructor in the helicopter and he was asked by David to sit in the passenger seat and make sure he performing the start up checklist okay and fly around with him a little while to make sure he remembered how to fly it properly. Nick was not giving any instructions on how to fly but to observe Mr. Stone and make sure he was flying it correctly. Nick stated that Mr. Stone was “very Rusty” on flying and on the controls. He said the pilot was “all over the place” and could not hover the helicopter very well. Nick stated he had to grab the controls several times to make sure they did not crash the helicopter. Nick make several attempts to get Mr. Stone to park the helicopter and try again the next day. At this time Mr. Stone landed the helicopter and asked Nick to get out as he was making him nervous. Nick then watched Mr. Stone fly the helicopter and again stated he was “all over the place” Nick was also very worried about the weather for the flight home since it was a long flight and knew rain was on the along the route. The pilot and his wife took off for Knoxville shortly after 10:30am and Nick watched them fly off. About 30 minutes later, Nick noticed the helicopter flying back to the airport and went outside to see what was going on. Nick noticed the wife get out of the helicopter and she was wet and very uncomfortable with the situation she was in. Nick said the pilot the hovered over to the fuel pump and about crashed into the large fuel tank. The pilot slammed the helicopter on the ground and narrowly missed the fuel tanks. Again Nick went over to the pilot and tried to talk him out of

flying home that day but the pilot refused to listen to him and departed for Knoxville a couple hours later. He waited a couple hours for the weather to improve.