



MEMORANDUM

Daniel P. Boggs
Air Safety Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: June 2023
Subject: ERA22FA397 - Helicopter recovery

On September 6, 2022, I traveled to Arthur, Kentucky to investigate the accident involving N162NH, a JetExec helicopter that crashed in the Mammoth Falls State Park. I completed my examination of the helicopter at the accident site. Chief Law Enforcement officer Will James indicated that the helicopter would have to be removed from the park as quickly as possible. We understood that the helicopter was uninsured. Mr. James expected that it would take a couple of days to gather the necessary equipment and personnel to complete the work. I then contacted Chris Ferraraccio of AMF Aviation aircraft recovery and asked if he would be interested in recovering the helicopter. Mr. Ferraraccio stated he would recover the helicopter after it was recovered from the accident site and brought to an accessible road. I informed Mr. James of my conversation with Mr. Ferraraccio. I had no further communication with Mr. James or Mr. Ferraraccio around that time. I understood that the helicopter was going to be recovered to AMF Aviation to be released at a later date. I returned from the accident site on September 8, 2022.

In early February 2023, I sent Mr. Ferraraccio a wreckage release form. The form included September 6, 2022, for the release date and indicated that no portions of the wreckage were retained. Mr. Ferraraccio subsequently signed and dated the form February 14, 2023.

On June 2, 2023, Mr. Ferraraccio called me and asked if I knew where the wreckage of N162NH was located. I told Mr. Ferraraccio that I believed that he recovered it in September to his facility. Mr. Ferraraccio stated that he never heard from the law officer about the recovery and did not recover the helicopter.

On June 5, 2023, I called Will James and asked what was done with the helicopter. Mr. James told me that the helicopter was cut into smaller pieces to facilitate its removal from the park and sent to the local land fill within a couple of days after I departed the accident site. I asked Mr. James why the helicopter was disposed of when AMF Aviation was going to pick it up. Mr. James responded that since there was no insurance and it was a safety concern for the community as people knew its location, he made the decision to dispose of it.