

Investigator Name: Leah D. Read
Title: Sr. ASI
Division: ERA

Date: April 7, 2025

Subject: ERA23FA317

Contact: Jeff Klatt, Dir. Of Safety, Helicopter Applicators, Inc.

Summary of Email

In an email, Mr. Klatt stated that Mr. Isaac Santos's ground crew planned to meet him at a predetermined rendezvous point after he sprayed the cluster of cornfields near Springfield, Ohio. He said, *"Isaac departed the previous LZ, followed by the ground crew. Almost immediately after entering I-70, the ground crew were stopped in traffic. After a few minutes, they tried to radio Isaac but were unable to reach him. They tried him on his phone, which Isaac would have had connected to his helmet via Bluetooth but were again unable to reach him. A supervisor then called the ground crew because he had noticed that Isaac had disappeared from FlightAware. The ground crew then noticed that the reason for the traffic stoppage was because a powerline was laying on top of a vehicle ahead of them (determined by zooming in with a phone camera). The ground crew then called and notified another company pilot who was operating in the area nearby. That pilot then flew to their location and was able to spot the accident site in the field adjacent to the ground crew's position. That pilot then landed, shut down, and walked into the corn field where he was the first person to physically arrive at the accident site."*