



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

Date: July 3, 2023

Subject: ERA23LA284

Contact: Greg Boyette, Pilot

In a telephone conversation, Mr. Boyette said he was attempting to takeoff in his helicopter. When he added collective, he felt a vibration and lowered the collective. He said the skids were light but never broke ground. Mr. Boyette then checked the magnetos and attempted to takeoff again; however, this time the vibration was more severe. He lowered the collective, but the vibrations continued, and the helicopter began to come apart. The vibration tore off the main rotor and tail boom, but the helicopter stayed upright on the skids. Mr. Boyette said he got into a ground resonance situation, but not sure how or why, and suggested a possible mechanical failure.

Mr. Boyette reported that he sustained a broken rib and four stitches in his forehead. The 55 and 11 year old passengers sustained minor injuries.

Mr. Boyette said the helicopter was moved/secured to his hangar (B6) at the Lake City Airport.

End.