



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Michael J. Hodges
Air Safety Investigator
General Aviation Accident Investigation Division (AS-20)

Date: July 14, 2015
Person Contacted: Mr. Kevin Sielaff (Flight Instructor)
NTSB Accident Number: GAA15CA181

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by Mr. Sielaff in a telephone conversation.

- The accident occurred on 7/13/2015 at 1515 MDT.
- The helicopter is a Robinson R22, N184SH.
- Mr. Sielaff is the flight instructor who was conducting an instructional flight with Mr. Patrick Burns. Mr. Sielaff was sitting in the left seat and Mr. Burns was sitting in the right seat.
- Mr. Sielaff reported that a 180 degree autorotation was being conducted to runway 12 and that Mr. Burns was on the flight controls.
- Mr. Sielaff reported that Mr. Burns entered the maneuver and all of the cockpit indications lined up and the winds were favorable.
- Mr. Sielaff reported that between 200 to 100 feet above ground level (AGL), Mr. Burns flared.
- Mr. Sielaff reported that he came on the controls between 100 to 75 feet AGL as Mr. Burns was increasing the collective and throttle. Mr. Sielaff reported that he felt the helicopter sink, and attempted a recovery, which included bringing the throttle up. Mr. Sielaff reported that he tried to level the helicopter before landing, and then the helicopter contacted the ground.
- Mr. Sielaff reported that once the helicopter contacted the ground, it didn't seem like a very hard landing. Mr. Sielaff reported that the helicopter slid to the right on the ground.
- Mr. Sielaff reported that the winds shifted on the surface and that it seemed like there was settling with power at the bottom of the maneuver.
- Mr. Sielaff and Mr. Burns sustained no injuries.
- Mr. Sielaff verified that there were no pre-impact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation.