

Sled 500 Incident at Dorchester County Airport, South Carolina June 26, 2019

Sled 500 was requested by Dorchester County to conduct marijuana eradication on June 26, 2019. Sled 500 was flown to Dorchester County Airport by S/A Dennis Tracy and S/A Bob Brickley. Upon arrival to the airport a County Deputy was assigned to us to guide us to numerous locations in the County. This was conducted all day which lasted to around 4:00 p.m. Around 4:00 p.m. we had completed all our assignments and were released to return to the Dorchester County Airport. Around 4:15 p.m. Sled 500 arrived at Dorchester County Airport and landed on the Northeast corner of the ramp in the grass. Sled 500 learned that it would be at least 30 minutes before the fuel truck would return to the Airport. Upon hearing that the fuel truck would be delayed S/A Bob Brickley discussed with S/A Dennis Tracy about fuel trucks on the premises and at the same time S/A Bob Brickley locked the peddles as had been done numerous times during the day. S/A Bob Brickley then climbed out of Sled 500 and proceeded to walk to the FBO. Upon arrival at FBO S/A Bob Brickley discussed with FBO Manager the availability of fuel for the helicopter in the fuel trucks. The FBO Manager proceeded to informed S/A Bob Brickley that the fuel trucks were inoperable and would have to relocate the helicopter to the fuel farm. S/A Bob Brickley returned across the ramp to where Sled 500 was parked and proceeded to inform S/A Dennis Tracy that the fuel trucks were not available and that Sled 500 would have to be relocated to the fuel farm to be refueled for the trip home. S/A Dennis Tracy acknowledged that Sled 500 would have to be relocated to the fuel farm for refueling. S/A Bob Brickley proceeded to walk to the fuel farm and S/A Dennis Tracy proceeded to hover taxi to the fuel farm. S/A Bob Brickley walked half way to the fuel farm and turned around to make sure Sled 500 was moving with that it was noted that S/A Dennis Tracy was having problems with the hover and S/A Bob Brickley could tell that something was wrong with the hover. The Sled 500 was turning extremely fast and the tail rotor hit the ground which the helicopter dropped to the ground and proceeded to come apart. S/A Bob Brickley saw this happening and proceeded to run to the helicopter trying to help S/A Dennis Tracy, but by the time S/A Bob Brickley got there Sled 500 had stopped moving and with the assistance of the Dorchester County Deputy proceeded to render aid to S/A Dennis Tracy and also shut down Sled 500. S/A Bob Brickley noted that there was a small fire in the engine compartment and extinguished the fire with the fire extinguisher. The Dorchester County Deputy assisted S/A Bob Brickley in removing S/A Dennis Tracy out of the helicopter to the ground and safety. The Dorchester County Deputy called 911 and requested medical and fire assets. The time was around 4:30 p.m. when all this transpired. S/A Bob Brickley called Lt. Brandon Moss and reported the accident.


6/28/2019