



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Eleazar Nepomuceno
Air Safety Investigator
General Aviation Accident Division

Date: 7/22/2019

Person Contacted: Wayne Matthews (Unit Flight Instructor & Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: GAA19CA403

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by the unit flight instructor in a telephone conversation on this date:

- History with organization: 20 years ongoing
- Organizational title- agent pilot; instructional pilot since 2009
- Helicopter experience: 6000 hrs. agent and pilot instructor pilot since 1984 accumulating about 4500 hours
- Chocking the pedals – first learned of practice in the mid 80's
- Practice originated from maintenance. Anti-torque pedals have bungee spring in the left pedal (at least half deflection and if not “chocked” the left travels and increases the pitch tail rotor
- Standard company practice for both landing during hot fueling operations and for dual pilot briefing at sites with county representatives
- He added that he is comfortable with the practice of “chocking the pedals” when both pilots step out of the helicopter.
- OJT training provided when learning to “chock the pedals”
- There is a consensus with full and part time pilots regarding “chocking the pedals”; all of which participate in this practice regularly
- He was not that the safety pilot, did not like to chock the pedals. It was not made aware to the upper management